

Tingim Laip and Love Patrol Rationale and Rollout Plan



Introduction

At project commencement, at least 80% of Tingim Laip (TL) project sites were using DVDs as a means of raising awareness on HIV and related issues in their communities. DVDs were sourced from local providers and varied in message content and quality as well as in relevance and alignment to TL prevention and care strategy. There were no guidelines on how DVD presentations were facilitated and there was generally no dialogue following the DVD presentation to explore issues deeper.

To strengthen quality and impact of DVD presentations as a way of triggering discussion on HIV and STIs relevant to individual community contexts, a review of appropriate tools from around the region were explored.

Love Patrol Overview

Love Patrol, a TV drama series with resource guide, produced by Wan Smolbag Theatre from Vanuatu was selected as an appropriate tool. The series was originally developed to respond to the lack of tools aimed at raising the profile of HIV, STIs and other social issues in the Pacific. Initially targeted for the Pacific region, the medium of television/ DVD was selected for this educational entertainment (edutainment) project because it has a wider reach than many other mediums, particularly given geographic isolation of Pacific Island countries and low levels of literacy. Love Patrol provides a starting point for communities to:

- Increase awareness on socially significant issues including sexually transmitted infections such as HIV, crime, gender inequality, family breakdowns, drugs and alcohol and violence
- Identify with HIV, STIs and social issues presented in the series as they occur in their own context
- Discuss ways to mitigate problems such as unsafe sex, use of alcohol and drugs, domestic violence and others presented in the series

Wan Smolbag has now developed three series of the TV drama (8 – 10 episodes each). Each series is accompanied by a Resource Guide that presents activities and discussion guides on issues raised in each episode. Resource Guides for series 2 and 3 have been produced as stand-alone booklets that can be used with or without the TV series. The stories from the episodes are told in a series of photo stories, so that they can be read and discussed. Activities in the resources guides reinforce information in the series and foster discussion on issues including sexual health, crime, violence, relationships and gender issues. Further, the discussion guides facilitate reflection and critical analysis of particular issues in viewer's own context.

Love Patrol in the Pacific:

Love Patrol has been broadcast on TV throughout the Pacific since 2006. Additionally, the DVDs and Resource Guides have been distributed to and used by schools, universities, community groups, NGOs, government departments, hospitals and health clinics. The series has proved to be very popular, especially in Melanesian countries. The series has helped to increase awareness about HIV

and STIs through characters and Pacific setting lifestyle that Islanders can identify with. From evaluation of the series, one of the most frequent comments about Love Patrol 2 was that it was a 'realistic depiction of life and social issues in the Pacific.' The series has allowed the discussion of 'taboo' subjects to occur in people's homes, schools and communities.

"My family, when it comes to Sunday, they all sit and watch, then afterwards they ask me all these questions - it really gets them thinking and asking about HIV issues"

HIV positive FGD participant, PNG.

It's very interesting - it's real life, issues in the Melanesian culture, one thing I notice is that when we're watching, everyone's quiet, all the aunties, uncles and all the kids, they are so focused on it"

FGD participant, PNG.

Evaluation:

A combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods were used in two separate exercises to evaluate Love Patrol Series 1 and 2, specifically in regards to the series': reach, perception of the series and impact on people's knowledge, attitudes and practices.

Key findings of the evaluations include:

- Entertaining and informative
- Tailored to people in local contexts
- Address 'higher' risk practices that put people at more risk to STIs
- Fosters community dialogue and behavioural change
- Positive impact on changes in sexual attitudes, knowledge and behaviour

Love Patrol rollout to Tingim Laip sites

Following discussion with TL National Team and Regional Coordinators, it was agreed that Love Patrol DVD and Resource Guide be introduced as the standard DVD for use in Tingim Laip sites to facilitate discussion on HIV, STIs and related issues.

Steps taken to introduce Love Patrol to Tingim Laip sites and timeline are as follows:

1. Consultation with Regional Coordinators

- In March 2011, Regional Coordinators were given LP 1 and Resource Guide to review and provide feedback on relevance of the tool to TL site activities and prevention plans. Regional Coordinators were asked to provide feedback on the following questions:
 - Does LP address any of the risk and/ or vulnerability factors identified in site assessment and planning sessions?
 - Will target groups (primary and secondary) identify with LP characters?

- Does LP address that site committees and volunteers are experiencing?
- Is LP something that communities will enjoy?

2. Field testing of Love Patrol Series 1 (LP 1)

- LP was field tested by RCs and POs in three different project locations (NCD, Western Highlands and Morobe). This was supported by TL DP Capacity Development and Prevention. This included two sessions as follows:
 - Session 1: RC/PO LP Facilitation Training and Overview
 - View LP Episodes 1 and 2
 - DP conducts training session on how to facilitate relevant activities from Resource Guide
 - Discussion and debrief on each activity
 - General discussion on HIV information
 - Session 2: RC/PO Field test LP with site committees
 - View LP Episodes 1 and 2
 - RC/ POs facilitate relevant activities from Resource Guide with DP support
 - Survey community participants for impressions of LP and appropriateness for use in TL
 - General discussion

Field testing produced positive responses in all locations from RCs, POs, volunteers and community members.

3. Introduce LP 1 to all Regional Coordinators and Project Officers

- LP DVDs and Resource Guides were introduced to all RCs and POs at the September 2011 quarterly planning meeting. The purpose was to ensure all staff are familiar with the tool and how to use it in site activities. These sessions included:
 - Facilitated viewing of LP episodes and relevant activities by DPs
 - Review of tools
 - Discussion on how to use the tools with site and integrate the tool in site activity plans

These sessions produced positive responses from all RCs and POs and LP activities were integrated into Q4 activity plans.

4. LP Facilitation by POs

Based on the outcome of the field testing and introduction of LP to all TL Field Staff it was agreed that LP would be rolled out across the project for use in all TL project locations. In previous months POs has attended a Facilitation Skills workshop, giving them the necessary skills to use the LP Resource Guide effectively.

For initial use of LP it was agreed that RCs and POs would facilitate sessions in sites as per site activity plans. This will ensure quality and consistency of LP tool implementation. It is expected that this will be standard practice until Q2 of 2012.

Rollout includes:

- Distribution of LP DVDs and Resources to all RCs and POs
- RCs and POs review site activity plans for DVD show requests and plan to conduct these activities in the community.
- RCs and POs conduct LP activities in TL communities

5. LP Facilitation by Site Committees

TL aims to build capacity of site committees and volunteers to be able to conduct and deliver HIV prevention activities independently. This includes delivery and implementation of Love Patrol. In their support to site committees, POs will identify suitable volunteers to receive further training and capacity building on facilitation of Love Patrol and use of the Resource Guides. Training will be supported by ongoing coaching and mentoring of volunteers as follows:

- Identification of suitable volunteers
- Training volunteers in facilitation skills
- Familiarizing volunteers with LP DVD and Resource Guide
- On-site support for volunteer implementation of first six episodes LP

Volunteer training will commence in January 2012 and it is expected that each community will have volunteer trained in LP facilitation by the end of June 2012.

6. Evaluation

Tingim Laip will review the use of LP to evaluate:

- Acceptance of LP by communities
- Relevance of LP messages to TL site activities and prevention strategies
- Effectiveness of implementation
- Impact of tool, specifically:
 - Ability of LP to foster community dialogue on relevant issues
 - Ability of LP to increase awareness and understanding on relevant issues

TL will adapt evaluation tools developed for formal evaluation of LP 2 to do its review.

Based on review findings, TL will take action to strengthen delivery of LP 1 and consider rollout of subsequent LP series and resource guides

Summary of Rollout Plan

| Activity | TL Site | Timeline | Person responsible |
|--|---|---------------|--|
| Consulting with Regional Coordinators LP | NA | March | DP-Prevention |
| Field testing of LP Series 1 in at least 3 sites | (i) Morobe-Markahm (ii) NCD- Joyce Bay (iii) Mt Hagen | June - August | DP-Prevention; DP- Capacity Development; RCs/ POs/ volunteers - Morobe, NCD, WH POs |

| | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------|--|
| Introduce LP 1 to all TL Field Staff (RCs and POs) | All | September 2011 | DP-Prevention Regional Coordinators Project Officers |
| LP Facilitation by POs | All | Q 4 2011 Q1 2012 | Regional Coordinators Project Officers |
| LP Facilitation by site committees | All | Q1 and Q2 2012 | Regional Coordinators Project Officers |
| Evaluation | Select Sites | Q1 2012 | DP Capacity Development |