

# Norway – united against HIV and AIDS

XIX International AIDS Conference 22-27 July 2012, Washington DC USA



## NORWAY- UNITED AGAINST HIV AND AIDS 2012

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### NORWAY - UNITED AGAINST HIV AND AIDS

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## INTRODUCTION

People living with HIV all over the world have the right to a life in dignity, free from stigma and discrimination. Responding to HIV means inclusion, opportunity, empowerment, protection and access to quality services. Norway is an active partner in the HIV response, both nationally and internationally - standing by the commitment made in the UN to secure Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support.

### **The “Health in All Policies” approach is needed at the global, national, regional and local levels**

To secure Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support we need to maximize positive synergies between HIV policies, health policies and broader social, development and human rights policies, while at the same time keeping the

focus on what is specific to HIV/AIDS. All countries should be encouraged to develop a public health policy based on the idea “health in all policies”. Norway’s approach reflects this and the national HIV strategy is a collaboration between six ministries. Globally we work for an integrated approach and our three main priorities are mobilising for women’s and children’s right and health, reduce the burden of disease and promoting human security through health. Responses to HIV need to address particularly those groups who are at most risk, while also securing an adequate level of knowledge in the whole population.

### **Primary Health Care is a key**

National health systems must be strengthened, particularly primary health care. Norwegian efforts to integrate health in foreign and development policy are particularly directed towards child and maternal health care and prevention and treatment of HIV, malaria and tuberculosis. HIV needs to be integrated in primary health care as much as possible, while work in social sectors more broadly is needed to create sustainable systems and rights based services. Norway has had more resources than many to build a national health care system. While the treatment of HIV is generally well taken care of for all in need, persons living with HIV face a number of obstacles due to stigma and misconceptions, from health personnel as well as from employers and others.

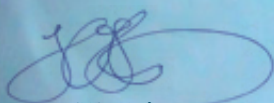
### **Law raises complex issues concerning equality, fairness, and justice**

The work to change entry restrictions for people living with HIV is an example of how advocacy can work to change laws. Selecting Washington as the venue of the AIDS 2012 conference underlines how society can shape laws, and how laws shape society. The Norwegian Government has appointed a Law Commission on Penal Code and Communicable Diseases to assess



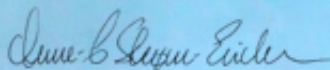
a number of topics related to criminalisation of transmission of communicable diseases, including HIV. The Commission will submit its report to the Ministry of Health in October 2012. The issue of law and HIV raises questions linked to medical practice, social science, justice and ethics.

The slogan for this conference signifies hope. Combined with new knowledge - and lessons learnt shared during the conference - we can all strengthen our work to turning the tide together.



Heikki Holmås

Minister of International Development



Anne-Grete Strøm-Erichsen

Minister of Health and Care Services

## ACCEPTANCE AND COPING NORWAY'S NATIONAL HIV STRATEGY (2009-2014)

The comprehensive aim of the National HIV Strategy (2009-2014) is that by the end of the strategy period, Norway will be a society that accepts and copes with HIV in a way that both limits new infections and gives persons living with HIV good conditions for social inclusion in all phases of their lives.

The aim is twofold with one focus on prevention of new infections and another on living conditions for PLHIV. Although no effort must be spared to ensure that as few people as possible are infected with HIV, we must recognise that tens of millions of people in the world are living with HIV. To ensure that more of PLHIV in Norway experience that they have good living conditions is in itself a crucial preventive strategy for avoiding the spread of HIV.

In addition to the main aim, the strategy has two operative general objectives and eight specific objectives. Under each of the specific objectives, a number of strategic moves are listed.

### General objectives:

- I. New infections with HIV shall be reduced - especially in groups with high vulnerability to HIV.
- II. Everyone living with HIV shall be ensured good treatment and follow-up regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation and/or practice, domicile, ethnic background and personal finances.

### Specific objectives:

- 1) Increase the knowledge about and awareness of HIV and AIDS in the population.
- 2) Reduce stigmatisation and discrimination associated with HIV.
- 3) Reduce new infections - especially among at-risk groups.
- 4) Reduce hidden sources of error - early detection of HIV infection; testing, surveys, diagnostics and appropriate counselling.
- 5) Remove barriers to access to medical treatment and comprehensive treatment programmes based on good teamwork among the health service providers involved.

## GLOBAL HEALTH IN FOREIGN AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY

### Report to the Storting (white paper) Meld. St. 11(2011-2012)

Norway is actively engaged in global AIDS diplomacy to develop an effective global response. The Government channels its HIV efforts through multilateral partners as well as through NGOs and bilateral aid. The white paper states the following priorities:

- Contribute to efforts to combat HIV globally
- Strengthen efforts and research related to communicable diseases in developing countries, with an emphasis on building capacity and competence. This includes strengthening the capacity of national health systems to carry out preventive work
- Further develop broad partnerships between multilateral organisations, national institutions, the private sector and civil society to combat communicable diseases. This includes organisations of those affected by these diseases, and cross-sector efforts, with particular focus on the link between HIV and tuberculosis
- Help to improve living conditions and quality of life for HIV-positive persons, and to normalising their status in society
- Continue to give priority to HIV/AIDS efforts with an emphasis on the rights perspective and the prevention and elimination of mother-to-child transmission
- Promote the rights of vulnerable groups, including the decriminalisation of homosexuality, highlight the links between sexual and reproductive rights and HIV infection, and encourage national health systems to give due emphasis to HIV infection among injecting drug users
- Seek to foster greater acceptance in the international community of the need for and the benefits of sex education for young people as a preventive measure against the spread of HIV/AIDS

The report can be downloaded at [www.regjeringen.no](http://www.regjeringen.no)

- 6) Ensure the participation of HIV positive persons in the labour force.
- 7) Further promote international cooperation and efforts, and follow up international obligations in the efforts to combat HIV and AIDS.
- 8) Help improve research on the prevention and treatment of HIV as well as monitoring and evaluation of prevalence, risk factors and effects of measures.

Objectives and strategies in “Acceptance and Coping” involve stakeholders at all administrative levels and many sectors of society. Six ministries and their underlying agencies, including the regional and local levels, play a role in the follow-up of the strategy. These are: Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion, Ministry of Children and Equality, Ministry of Health and Care Services, Ministry of Justice and the Police, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Ministry of Health and Care Services has the overall responsibility for coordinating the interministerial work, while the Directorate of Health heads the coordinating group at Directorate level.

Civil society and NGOs are also key implementing agents. Involvement of persons living with HIV is a crucial success factor in the implementation of the plan.

“Acceptance and coping” can be downloaded at [www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/hod](http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/hod)



## NORWEGIAN NATIONAL HIV AND AIDS COUNCIL

In order to help facilitate the coordination of the national measures with the international AIDS policy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health and Care Services appointed a joint Norwegian National HIV and AIDS Council in 2007.

The Council meets two times a year and is chaired alternately by a Minister or State Secretary from MHCS or MFA respectively. The Council has members from affected government agencies and from civil society, including representatives for people living with HIV and from organisations that work on international development cooperation and with youth.

The Council is a platform for discussing key topics and challenges related to the epidemic abroad and at home, as well as a platform for a dialogue with the political leadership in both ministries. The council has no decision-making authority.



## HIV INFECTION NOTIFICATIONS IN NORWAY 1984-2011 BY RISK CATEGORY AND YEAR OF DIAGNOSIS

Transmission group	< 2001	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	Total	%
Heterosex. contact	864	105	151	153	163	134	164	141	185	171	157	155	2543	51,9
-living in Norway	354	27	28	34	43	33	42	41	46	44	57	46	795	-
-immigrants	510	78	123	119	120	101	122	100	139	127	100	109	1748	-
Homo/bisexual male	767	39	30	57	70	56	90	77	92	88	85	97	1548	31,6
Injecting drug user	449	8	16	13	15	20	7	13	12	11	11	10	585	11,9
Haemophiliac/transf.recipient	46									1			46	0,9
Mother-to-child	25	2	2	5	1	5	6	9	4	4	1	4	68	1,4
Other/unknown	42	3	6	10	2	4	9	8	6	9	4	3	106	2,2
Total	2193	157	205	238	251	219	276	248	299	284	258	269	4897	100,0

The yearly number of newly diagnosed HIV positive persons in Norway doubled from about 150 cases in the 1990s to nearly 270 cases in 2011 (Norway's population is around 5 million). This is primarily due to an increase in the number of HIV positive immigrants who have come to Norway from countries with a high prevalence of HIV, and to an increase in HIV infection among MSM in Norway the last six years. In the last ten years, no definite increase in heterosexual HIV infection among persons born in Norway has been confirmed.

Among IDUs, the number of HIV-infected persons has remained at a stable low level. The number of confirmed HIV infections among heterosexual youth remains low. Only one case of infection through blood transfusion has been confirmed in Norway after 1986 and this case has been tracked abroad. HIV infection in children in connection with pregnancy and birth has not occurred in Norway since 1999.





## ABOUT OUR EXHIBITION- #38 NORWAY-UNITED AGAINST HIV AND AIDS- 2012

The Norwegian booth will be hosted by representatives from both governmental and non-governmental bodies. This is the third time around we are organizing the Norwegian initiative in this manner. We wanted to develop and expand on our positive experiences from working together and standing side by side at the International AIDS conference in Mexico in 2008 and in Vienna in 2010.

We feel that this gives us the best opportunity to present and give information about our joint and separate efforts in Norway and internationally. What our challenges are and how we are planning to move forward. On the following pages most of the organisations that will be represented at the booth have made brief presentations of their respective organisations.



## AKSEPT Centre for people living with HIV & AIDS

- is a place where people living with HIV & AIDS can meet and get support
- provides information about HIV and how it is to live with HIV
- has existed since 1987 as a resource centre for all HIV positive people in Norway
- is situated in a beautiful villa in the centre of Oslo

### Aksept's services include:

- Open House: a meeting place for people living with HIV & AIDS
- Outpatient Clinic: provides individual and group counselling and therapy
- Inpatient Care Unit: offers 10 individual rooms for convalescence and care
- Practice stays for health- and social workers

### Our recent projects:

- HIV-school for children and youth living with HIV
- Coping seminars for asylum seekers and new immigrants living with HIV
- African leaders in response to HIV - development of network and national forum
- HIV testing

Aksept is part of the Church City Mission Oslo. We are funded by Oslo Municipality. Our staff is multidisciplinary and experienced. Aksept mirrors the global epidemic. People of all ages, life philosophies, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations and identities visit our centre and use our services.

At the Interfaith Pre-conference to AIDS 2012 Aksept, in cooperation with PMV, is giving a workshop with the title: Migration, dignity and HIV - the Norwegian challenge.

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### Contact

Aksept Centre for people living with HIV & AIDS

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## CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL HEALTH (CIH)

### Global perspectives on health

From the establishment at UiB in 1988 until today, CIH has developed from a small research centre to a leading institution in the field of international health. The Centre aims to provide high quality research with relevance for and impact on health policy. Equally important is the aim to strengthen research capacity at partner institutions in low and middle income countries. CIH is organized in thematic research groups; Child Health and Nutrition, Global Health and HIV/AIDS and some smaller groups.

### Innovative research on HIV

HIV, a massive global challenge, demands a wide range of actions both to prevent new cases of HIV, but also to relieve sufferings through treatment and support. The HIV/AIDS research group studies a wide array of topics, e.g. HIV epidemiology to better understand dynamics and trends in transmission; finding more acceptable ways of HIV testing and counseling, finding ways of appropriate and more effective task sharing within health systems and sexual risk taking. All research projects are conducted in close cooperation with partner institutions in Africa and Asia and closely linked with local capacity strengthening.

The research targets the needs of the population, and research findings are put to use in both policy changes and actual medical treatment schemes.

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## CHANGEMAKER

Changemaker is an international non-governmental youth movement. We are at the moment 2000 young people between the ages of 13 and 30 in Norway. We aim to attack the fundamental causes of the unequal distribution of resources between rich northern countries and the poor South. One of our mottos is that knowledge without action is cowardice, but action without knowledge is stupidity.

We focus on the connections within the North-South relationship, which are extremely complex. We must seek out knowledge in order to know where to make changes. Awareness raising among young people is important.

Changemaker is working on five topics: climate change, international trade relations, global health, peace and developing country debt. Through Norwegian politics, we try to set the agenda to make a change on these themes.

On global health and HIV/AIDS, we are working on access to medicines for the world's poor. WTO's patent legislation, the TRIPS agreement, is making medicines unavailable to the ones who need it the most. Diseases that don't affect the rich North, are also neglected in the drug industry, making big health challenges in the South hard to meet. The fact that many rich countries also depend on recruiting health personnel from poorer countries, is draining the health sector in the South. These are some examples on what we are focusing on.

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### Contact

**Changemaker**

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**Website:** [www.changemaker.no](http://www.changemaker.no)

## CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF NORWAY

### One Body Nordic-Foccisa Church Cooperation on HIV and AIDS

Christian Council of Norway in cooperation with National Christian Councils in Southern Africa and the Nordic European Countries (15 countries)

**Target group:** Church leaders

#### Goals:

- Reduced level of stigma and discrimination in churches of people living with and vulnerable to HIV
- Church communities where people living with and affected by HIV are free to live full lives and use their gifts for the best of their community as they would have done without HIV
- Reduced barriers that prevent gender equality in the face of HIV and AIDS.

“One Body: North-South reflections in the face of HIV and AIDS” is the title of a resource material for church leaders on the following themes:

- Human Sexuality and Gender
- Compassionate Images of God
- The Inclusive Church and Community

The material is the outcome of a close and collaborative dialogue between people - HIV positive and HIV negative - from Southern Africa and the Nordic European countries. The project with the same name - One Body - organizes national and local trainings on this resource material for church leaders in the countries involved.

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#### Contact

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## CHURCH CITY MISSION IN TRONDHEIM

### - LIVING WITH HIV

- a place to meet for people affected by HIV/AIDS

#### “Living with HIV” is:

- resource for people with HIV/AIDS and others who are affected
- a meeting place, a place for rest
- a place to find support
- a place for safety, knowledge and challenge

#### “Living with HIV” offers:

- meetings with others affected by HIV/AIDS
- counselling
- thematic discussions, courses, social gatherings, meals, fellowship
- sharing of information and education about HIV/AIDS to organisations, schools, students, church-groups
- organises rallies and actions of solidarity in the local community
- organizes an annual seminar on the world AIDS Day which is aimed at health professionals, social workers and students

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#### Contact

**Church City Mission in Trondheim - “Living with HIV”/**

**“Leve med HIV” - Kirkens Bymisjon i Trondheim**

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## FAFO

- **Institute for Labour and Social Research**
- **Institute for Applied International Studies**

Fafo is an independent and multidisciplinary research foundation focusing on welfare policy, labour market, living conditions, public health, migration and development issues. Fafo works within a domestic Norwegian and a larger international context. Fafo's research on the social aspects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic forms an integral part of our research on people's vulnerability and living conditions be it poverty, health, welfare or labour market issues.

In Fafo's national and international research on social aspects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic the aim is to work closely with local stakeholders and/or academic institutions, and to conduct research of high ethical and methodological standards.

### Some key research questions are

- How do people living with HIV/AIDS experience the societal response to the epidemic; and what are their views of policies and services?
- How are society and the welfare apparatus challenged by the epidemic and the needs of HIV-infected people?

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### Contact

#### FAFO

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## GAY AND LESBIAN HEALTH NORWAY

Gay and Lesbian Health Norway is an independent and countrywide NGO serving the LGBT-community. The organization focuses on disease prevention for women who have sex with women and men who have sex with men (MSM). HIV is the highest priority area within the organization's professional portfolio.

Our goal is to make life healthier for our target groups, both physically and mentally. To meet these goals, our programs are grounded in evidence both from social science research as well as stringent evaluations.

Sexual minorities in Norway have roughly the same level of health as the population as a whole. However, in some key areas LGBT-people are overrepresented, for example when it comes to HIV and AIDS.

HIV and risky sexual behavior among MSM is often a symptom of lifestyle, shame, stigma, a lack of knowledge and/or minority stress.

Therefore Gay and Lesbian Health Norway believes that providing knowledge about all health issues experienced by gay men, both mentally and physically, is a form of HIV prevention.

Gay and Lesbian Health Norway has released a general health brochure for all men who have sex with men that covers a wide range of health issues, with the aim to improve the collective and personal health of all men who have sex with men in Norway.

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### Contact

#### Gay and Lesbian Health Norway/

Helseutvalget for bedre homohelse

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 youchat.no • gaykids.no

## HIVNORWAY

### Safeguarding rights

HivNorway is a national organisation committed to safeguarding the rights and interests of people infected and affected by HIV, as well as combating the spread of HIV and AIDS. HivNorway is a member organisation, and membership is open to all interested parties, both individuals and civil society organisations involved with HIV and AIDS.

### Counselling

HivNorway offers counselling and guidance to people directly affected by HIV and AIDS, particularly concerning rights in health care, social security and workplace matters. We support networks of HIV positive people and others affected by HIV and AIDS. We also provide advice for professionals about living with HIV and AIDS, and related issues.

### Awareness raising

Awareness about the situation for people living with HIV and AIDS is an important element of safeguarding the rights of HIV positive persons. Information about how HIV spreads is crucial to curb the epidemic.

HivNorway contributes – on its own and in partnership with others, and challenges public authorities and civil society to take responsibility for improving the situation.

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### Contact

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## INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL GROUP (IHSG)

- International health and social group (Network IHSG) was established in 1994.
- IHSG is one of the few organizations in Norway focusing on immigrants' health and social problems.
- We have volunteer experts in health and social sector, business, arts and culture.
- Cooperation with the Norwegian authorities is our most important task.
- We have multicultural expertise in various areas and a counseling agency for ethnic minorities.
- IHSG's main purpose is to support community development, building trust and confidence in the target group.
- Since the establishment of the IHSG we have worked on HIV/AIDS and STDs. We have an annual event on World AIDS Day where the main target group is youth.

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### Contact

International health and social group/Internasjonal helse -og sosial gruppe (IHSG)

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## CAST NORGE - COUNSELING MEN WHO BUY SEX

Reform - resource centre for men is a politically independent non-profit organization who works towards gender equality from a male perspective. We believe that men as well as women benefit from increased gender equality, and that men as well as women experience challenges based on their gender.

There is a misconception that men do not talk about feelings. Buying sex is often associated with emotional discomfort. Our experience is that men in fact do talk about feelings when given the chance. KAST Norge is run by Reform, and is a free, anonymous counseling service for men who buy sex. We provide an arena where men can talk about how they feel about prostitution and why they participate in it on their own terms. Through sexual empowerment our clients find alternatives to paying for sex.

### We provide:

- Sexological counseling
- STI testing and treatment
- HIV rapid test

Anonymous. Free of charge.

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### Contact

**CAST Norge/CAST Norge**

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## NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID (NCA)

Norwegian Church Aid is a voluntary, ecumenical organisation that works to promote the basic rights of human beings.

Norwegian Church Aid has been involved in HIV-related work for more than 20 years.

In the new Global Strategy for 2011-2015, Norwegian Church Aid has defined 12 global programs. Among them is: Social mitigation of HIV and AIDS

The goal of the program is: improved quality of life for people living with or affected by HIV and AIDS. This will be achieved by providing legal, social, economic and spiritual support particularly to women and children orphaned by or living with HIV and AIDS. We will provide life skills training for youth living with HIV. We will mobilise civil society to advocate for the right to access to treatment and care as well as advocate for strong, efficient and accountable public services.

The program will be implemented through our local partners in 10 countries in Africa, Asia and Europe. Our main partners are faith-based organisations.

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## NORWEGIAN HIV PATIENT NETWORK

The Norwegian HIV Patient Network is a newly established network for all people living with HIV (PLHIV) in Norway. We have a wider health focus and our aim is to ensure that all patients with HIV get the best possible treatment and care, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity and where we live. Our method is to encourage and empower fellow PLHIV to establish local patient networks/groups throughout the country.

To cooperate with professionals, administrative and political representatives at all levels of health care and social system is essential in order to establish and maintain such patient networks and to ensure the best possible treatment and care both locally and nationally, based on increased patient participation. We have currently established a patient network in Oslo and will work towards recruiting representatives/groups and forming networks in all major cities during 2012/13.

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### Contact

**Norwegian HIV Patient Network/Pasientrådet for hivpositive**

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## NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF URBAN AND REGIONAL RESEARCH (NIBR)

NIBR is an independent social science policy research institute with 65 researchers. NIBR has identified the research area of Governance and Equity in Health Services as one of its six cross-cutting priority research areas.

We do research with research partners in Norway and in countries of studies on:

- Governance and implementation of HIV/AIDS programmes in Africa and Russia,
- Evaluation of donor HIV/AIDS interventions
- HIV/AIDS and migration
- Training in HIV prevention for health and social workers

NIBR HIV/AIDS and Global Health research group is working mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa and Russia. The overall goal of this group is to do research on the role of governance in effective responses to health challenges, and in particular, the prevention, care and treatment of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Governance is understood primarily in terms of the types of institutional arrangements, participation and rights based accountability required for achieving better health outcomes.

### NIBR HIV/AIDS Research Projects

- Searching for effective HIV prevention in Sub-Saharan Africa
- The Governance of HIV/AIDS Prevention in North-West Russia
- Evaluation of Swedish/Norwegian Regional HIV/AIDS Team for Africa
- Training in HIV prevention for health and social workers in Archangelsk
- Organization and management of HIV/AIDS interventions for immigrants.

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## PION - SEX WORKER'S RIGHT ORGANIZATION IN NORWAY

PION was established in 1990 and is a political interest and rights organization for all sex-workers in Norway.

PION:

- Advocates health, rights and safety for sex workers in Norway
- Promote and provide information about safe sex
- Provide sex workers with condoms and lubrication
- Provide legal advice and help
- Oppose all forms of oppression, stigmatization, discrimination and social exclusion of female, male and transgender sex workers
- Oppose all forms of criminalization and regulatory regimes directed towards sex workers and people living with HIV

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### Contact

**PION - Sex worker's right organisation in Norway/**

Prostituertes interorganisasjon i Norge

**Location:** Torggata 10

**Postal address:** PO. Box 6851, St. Olavs plass,  
N-0130 OSLO, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 90 06 35 58

**E-mail:** pion@pion-norge.no

**Website:** www.pion-norge.no

## PRIMARY HEALTH WORKSHOP - CENTRE FOR HEALTH, DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT

PMV promotes activities, learning and health work in a multicultural setting. It is a centre where public and private organisations can obtain information and advice with regards to multicultural issues and challenges. PMV is owned and partially financed by the Church City Mission of Oslo, the Municipality of Oslo and the Directorate of integration and diversity (IMDI).

The people who visit the centre on a regular basis are primarily immigrant women (many of whom are isolated in society), children and youth who need a "meeting place".

PMV believes that playing an active part in decision-making helps people realise their inherent strengths as well as motivates them to take control of their own lives and health. Strategies are - self help groups, interreligious dialogue, theatre for development . An overarching principle is empowerment.

The project on HIV and AIDS is linked to projects about forced marriage and female genital mutilation, i.e. overlapping activities, and to some degree the encouragement of synergies and exchange of experience between the participants.

- Focus on building up knowledge on HIV/AIDS among immigrant youth.
- Developing methods and strategies for information work with emphasis on facts and statistics, treatment options and prevention among immigrant youth, especially boys.
- Religion and HIV/AIDS
- The Norwegian health system focus: legal rights

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### Contact

**PMV - Centre for health, dialogue and development/**

Primærmedisink verksted (PMV)

**Location:** Motzfeldtsgate 1

**Postal address:** Motzfeldtsgate 1, N-0187 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 23 06 03 80

**Fax:** +47 23 06 03 99

**E-mail:** pmv@bymisjon.no

**Website:** www.bymisjon.no/pmv

## QUEER YOUTH NORWAY

### About Skeiv Ungdom

Skeiv Ungdom (Queer Youth Norway) was founded in 2004 and is the only organization for lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and queer youth in Norway. We have approximately 500 members and 10 local branches around the country. We work both politically to promote the rights and health of young LGBTQ, and socially to create safe spaces for the same group.

### Vision

The vision of Skeiv Ungdom is to create a world where every single human being are able to be and define themselves, regardless of gender identity or expression, or sexuality. We want a world where all sexual expressions based on equality and consent is accepted, and that no one get privileges based on gender expression or identity, or sexuality.

Skeiv Ungdom is for variety and against discrimination.

### Skeiv Ungdom and HIV

Skeiv Ungdom has been working with HIV issues since the beginning of 2004. The focus has mainly been to increase the knowledge on HIV and AIDS among young people, mainly within the organization but also in society in general, fight stigma and discrimination and work against the Norwegian penal code criminalizing transmission of HIV. Skeiv Ungdom is also a part of the Norwegian youth network on HIV and has in addition been a part of the national organizing committee for the Worlds AIDS Day.

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### Contact

**Queer Youth Norway/Skeiv Ungdom**

**Location:** Oslo, Norway

**Postal address:** Tollbugata 24, N- 0170 Oslo

**Telephone:** +47 23 10 39 36

**E-mail:** [post@skeivungdom.no](mailto:post@skeivungdom.no)

**Website:** [www.skeivungdom.no](http://www.skeivungdom.no)

## SAVE THE CHILDREN

Children have the right to be protected against HIV and AIDS. We are envisioning a world in which children, families and communities can live free of HIV and those affected have the right to live positively and productively without stigma and discrimination.

- Newborns, children and young people must be protected from HIV-infection
- Orphans and vulnerable children need community and family based care and support

Globally, more than 2.1 million children are now living with HIV. 15 million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS, 12 million of these live in Africa. 50% of new infections occur among adolescents and young people, with girls being disproportionately affected. Every day more than 1000 babies are born HIV positive, most will die before the age of five. Millions are acting as caregivers to younger siblings and sick parents.

Save the Children Norway work in more than 20 countries, in partnership with children, communities, authorities and local NGOs. In 2009 we directly reached around 315 000 children with HIV programming in Africa, Asia and Latin-America.

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### Contact

**Save the children/Redd Barna**

**Location:** Storgata 38

**Postal address:** PO. Box 6902 St. Olavs plass, N-0130 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 22 99 09 00

**E-mail:** [post@reddbarna.no](mailto:post@reddbarna.no)

**Website:** [www.reddbarna.no/](http://www.reddbarna.no/) [www.savethechildren.net](http://www.savethechildren.net)



## SEX OG POLITIKK - THE NORWEGIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Sex og Politikk is an independent, idealistic organisation founded to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Sex og Politikk is the Norwegian Member Association of IPPF - International Planned Parenthood Federation - and advocates the ideas and values of the accepted principles of the federation. Sex og Politikk initiated the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for SRHR in the Norwegian Parliament, where we hold the secretariat. In our strategic HIV/AIDS work we have chosen to cooperate with IPM - International Partnership for Microbicides and IAVI - International AIDS Vaccine Initiative.

### «NORWAY - UNITED AGAINST HIV AND AIDS»

No one solution will end AIDS. The pandemic requires a comprehensive approach entailing treatment, care and support for people living with HIV, and increased access to existing prevention methods to significantly reduce new infections and the development of new prevention methods, especially for women and girls, such as microbicides and vaccines.

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#### Contact

**Sex og Politikk - The Norwegian Association for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**

**Location:** Trondheimsveien 2 B

**Postal address:** Sex og Politikk c/o Sex og Samfunn, Trondheimsveien 2 B, N-0560 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 22 11 55 13

**E-mail:** [post@sexogpolitikk.no](mailto:post@sexogpolitikk.no)

**Website:** [www.sexogpolitikk.no](http://www.sexogpolitikk.no)

## THE ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANE DRUG POLICY

A drug user's organization working against drug prohibition and the criminalization of drug users. The association is also working for legalization in favor of reasonable regulation.

We strive for evidence-based harm-reduction efforts, care, tolerance and respect for human rights, instead of stigmatization.

We are doing regular outreach work on harm reduction to active drug users in and around the open drug scenes in Oslo. We also cooperate with several community based harm reduction service providers around the country.

Every year, prior to the World AIDS day, we organise an event to set the agenda for the theme, together with the organization "M" and The Prostitutes Interest Organisation in Norway.

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#### Contact

**The Association for Humane Drug Policy/**

Foreningen for human narkotikapolitikk

**Location:** Arbeidersamfunnetsplass 1, Oslo

**Postal address:** Postboks 8895 Youngstorget, N-0028 Oslo

**Telephone:** +47 47 26 10 57

**E-mail:** [arild.knutsen@fhn.no](mailto:arild.knutsen@fhn.no)

**Website:** <http://www.fhn.no>

## THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL MEDICINE

The Centre for Social Medicine in Tromsø, Norway is a public-sector actor that has worked especially with following up HIV-positive persons and that has conducted projects aimed at immigrants.

They have a programme that covers the whole of Northern Norway Regional Health Authority. Many of the people they follow up are immigrants, and many are women. They work with psychosocial issues, have individual follow-up and arrange group trips and courses. Much of their activity involves providing information about living with HIV, prevention of infection and having children. Most of the people that they have contact with were infected heterosexually.

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### Contact

**The Centre for Social medicine/Sosialmedisinsk senter**

**Location:** Søndre Tollbodgt.7

**Postal address:** 9008 Tromsø, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 77 79 04 00

**Fax:** +47 77 79 04 01

**Website:** [www.tromso.kommune.no](http://www.tromso.kommune.no)

## THE NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (NORAD)

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) is a specialized directorate under the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

Norad assures the quality of Norwegian development assistance by means of 1) technical advisory services, 2) quality assurance and monitoring of development assistance administration, 3) grant administration, 4) communication and 5) evaluation.

Norad's Department for Global Health, Education and Research provides policy and technical advice to the MFA and embassies in the area of health and AIDS.

Norad contributes to the international AIDS response in collaboration with the UN and different national and international organisations.

Link to Norad's Strategy towards 2015: Results in the Fight against Poverty. <http://www.norad.no/en/tools-and-publications/publications/publication?key=383567>

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### Contact

**Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation/Direktoratet for utviklingssamarbeid (Norad)**

**Location:** Rusetøkkveien 26

**Postal address:** PO. Box 8034 Dep, N-0030 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 23 98 00 00

**E-mail:** [post-helse@norad.no](mailto:post-helse@norad.no)

**Website:** [www.norad.no/en](http://www.norad.no/en)



## THE NORWEGIAN CHILDREN AND YOUTH COUNCIL (LNU)

LNU is an umbrella organization for close to a 100 non-governmental children and youth organizations. Our member organizations work with a wide range of areas: from education and politics through music to scouting and faith based work. LNU represents the youth organizations' views towards authorities and other important institutions, and is also a centre of competence regarding children and youth.

LNU's 2011-campaign HIV is a virus = no crime! worked to spread information and combat prejudices against people with HIV. Despite the fact that HIV is a virus and not a crime Norway and a number of other countries, have legislation criminalizing people living with HIV and AIDS. One of the key elements of LNU's international work is to increase and improve youth participation in decision making processes where matters such as these are being debated. Through the campaign HIV is a virus = no crime! LNU has been pushing for authorities in Norway and elsewhere to abolish penal acts and travel restrictions that criminalize people living with HIV and AIDS. LNU continues to put these questions on the agenda also through our international youth representation to the Global Fund and other UN-institutions.

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### Contact

#### The Norwegian Children and Youth Council/

Landsrådet for Norges barne- og ungdomsorganisasjoner (LNU)

**Location:** Øvre Slottsgate 2b,

**Postal address:** : N-0157 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 23 31 06 00

**Fax:** +47 23 31 06 01

**E-mail:** lnu@lnu.no

**Website:** www.lnu.no/english

## THE NORWEGIAN DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH

The Norwegian Directorate of Health is an executive agency and competent authority subordinate to the Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services.

The political frameworks to which the Directorate is subject are the political platform of the government in office at any time and resolutions of the government and of Parliament.

The political values conveyed by the annual national budget and the instructions in the annual letter of allocation from the Ministry of Health and Care Services are determinative.

### Public tasks

The Norwegian Directorate of Health shall improve the health of the entire nation through integrated and targeted activities across services, sectors and administrative levels.

The Directorate shall do so by virtue of its role as a sub-ministerial agency, as a regulatory authority and as an implementing authority in areas of health policy.

The Directorate of Health is responsible for the implementation and cross sectional coordination of the national strategies for improving sexual health, including HIV and other sexual transmitted infections.

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### Contact

#### The Norwegian Directorate of Health/Helsedirektoratet

**Location:** Universitetsgata 2

**Postal address:** PO. Box 7000 St. Olavs Plass,  
N-0130 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 81 02 00 50

**Fax:** +47 24 16 30 01

**E-mail:** postmottak@helsedir.no

**Website:** www.helsedirektoratet.no

## THE NORWEGIAN HEART AND LUNG PATIENT ORGANISATION (LHL)

The Norwegian Heart and Lung Patient Organisation (LHL) was established in 1943 by TB-patients as a rights based patient organization. In Norway the focus is widened to all patients within the field of heart and lung diseases.

LHL is actively engaged in the fight against TB, both nationally and internationally.

Patients' rights, patient and community empowerment, health communication, poverty alleviation, assistance to vulnerable groups, MDR TB and focus on co-infection of HIV and TB are issues which are high on our agenda.

### No more people with HIV dying from TB!

In some countries in Southern Africa, around 70 % of TB patients are HIV+ TB is a major cause of death and illness among people living with HIV. This is unacceptable. TB is curable, also if you are HIV+!

### One patient - two diseases. Co-infected patients experience:

- Lack of access to health services
- Many unnecessary barriers when seeking health services for both diseases
- Lack of knowledge and misconceptions
- Stigma and discrimination

HIV and TB services need to be integrated and coordinated. They should also be patient friendly! LHL works with partners to achieve this.

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### Contact

#### The Norwegian Heart and Lung Patient Organisation/

Landsforeningen for Hjerte og Lungesyke (LHL)

**Location:** Storgata 33 A, Oslo

**Postal address:** PO. Box 8767 Youngstorget, N-0028 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 22 79 90 00

**Fax:** +47 22 22 50 37

**E-mail:** post@lhl.no

**Website:** www.lhl.no

## THE NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH) is a governmental institution placed directly under the Ministry of Health and Care Services. The NIPH acts as a national competence institution for governmental authorities, the health services, the judiciary, prosecuting authorities, politicians, the media and the general public.

The Institute has five divisions. The Division of Infectious Disease Control is engaged in prevention and control of communicable diseases. The main activities include surveillance of infectious diseases and infectious agents, specialised microbiological assays, recommendations and programmes for vaccination and vaccine supply. The division provides advice to local and central health authorities and health personnel in all aspects of prevention of infectious diseases. Research constitutes an integral part of the division's activities and provides in part the basis for information and recommendations from the institute.

### HIV-infection and other sexually transmittable diseases

The institute has the task of national surveillance of the HIV pandemic and other STI's and is also partner in development of national policies and guidelines in prevention and health care services. Counselling and guidance to health professionals is another service offered from the institute. Finally we are involved in research and have close links to other European networks within the same field. Facts and news on HIV and STI are published on the webpage <http://www.fhi.no/hiv>

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### Contact

#### The Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH)/

Nasjonalt folkehelseinstitutt (FHI)

**Postal address:** PO. Box 4404 Nydalen, N-0403 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 21 07 70 00

**Fax:** +47 22 35 36 05

**E-mail:** postmottak@fhi.no

**Website:** <http://www.fhi.no>



## THE NORWEGIAN KNOWLEDGE CENTRE FOR THE HEALTH SERVICES (NOKC)

The Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services (NOKC) supports the development of quality in the health services by summarising research, promoting the use of research results, contributing to quality improvement, measuring the quality of health services, and working to improve patient safety.

### Some of our products and services include:

- Systematic reviews
- Health economic evaluations
- Consequence assessments for the Norwegian health services
- Patient and user experience surveys
- Other quality measurements
- Helsebiblioteket.no (The Norwegian Electronic Health Library - useful information for health professionals)
- Home to The Campbell Collaboration's Headquarters (The office facilitates the work of Campbell's international network)

### Ownership and organisation

The knowledge centre is organised under the Norwegian Directorate of Health but is scientifically and professionally independent. The Knowledge Centre has no authority to develop health policy or responsibility to implement policies. A separate Advisory Board counsels our management.

The centre was established in 2004

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### Contact

#### Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services/

Nasjonalt kunnskapssenter for helsetjenesten

**Location:** Pilestredet Park 7

**Postal address:** PO Box 7004 St. Olavs plass, N-0130 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 23 25 50 00

**Fax:** +47 23 25 50 10

**E-mail:** post@nokc.no

**Website:** www.kunnskapssenteret.no

## THE NORWEGIAN LGBT ASSOCIATION (LLH)

LLH is working for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people being able to live openly without fear of being socially ostracized, discriminated against or harassed. We work for you and your rights!

Since 2006 LLH has also been involved in international rights work through partnerships with organisations in South Asia and East Africa. Our main focus is rights based work that includes the participation of lesbians and transgenders. LLH funding for international rights work comes from Norad and the Ministry for Foreign affairs. Amongst our international partners you'll find Blue Diamond Society in Nepal and Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Kenya.

LLH works with HIV/AIDS and STI prevention under the slogan "New times - New challenges". This is based on the complexity within the group men who have sex with men, MSM. We work amongst other things with empowerment of HIV +, prevention strategies amongst HIV - and increased testing within group. We are one of few national organisations in Norway working specifically with MSM and we have local branches all over Norway.

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### Contact

**The Norwegian LGBT Association/Landsforeningen for lesbiske, homofile, bifile og transpersoner (LLH)**

**Location:** Tollbugata 24

**Postal address:** N-0157 Oslo

**Telephone:** +47 23 10 39 39

**E-mail:** post@llh.no

**Website:** www.llh.no

## THE THE NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Through a policy of engagement, the Ministry is pursuing its aim of actively taking advantage of the positive aspects of globalisation and minimising its negative aspects. This policy covers aid and the fight against poverty, efforts to promote human rights, peace and reconciliation efforts, and humanitarian policy and assistance.

The Report to the Storting (white paper) Meld. St. 11(2011-2012) "The Global health in foreign and development policy" is the main policy document guiding Norwegian efforts in global health, including HIV/AIDS.

The Ministry participates in the multisectoral national HIV strategy (2009-2014) Acceptance and coping.

Norway has been actively involved in global HIV efforts for 25 years. We provide funding via multilateral organisations and NGOs, and support national responses. In addition, Norway is engaged in global AIDS diplomacy to develop a good global response. The Ministry stresses the importance of integrated health services, which should include services related to HIV and AIDS. Integration with other reproductive and sexual health services is particularly important.

The rights perspective is central to the Ministry's policy on HIV. Particular emphasis is given to women, children, young people and especially vulnerable groups, and their access to relevant services and information. Young people should play an active role in developing a response to the epidemic.

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### Contact

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Utenriksdepartementet**

**Location:** 7. juni-plassen/ Victoria Terrasse Oslo

**Postal address:** PO Box 8114 Dep. N-0032 Oslo Norway

**Telephone:** +47 23 95 00 00

**Fax:** +47 23 95 00 99

**E-mail:** [post@mfa.no](mailto:post@mfa.no)

**Website:** <http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/ud.html?id=833>

## THE NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES)

- has overall responsibility for seeing that the population gets good, equivalent health and care services regardless of factors such as their place of residence and personal finances. The Ministry administers health and care services through an extensive body of laws, annual allocations (about NOK 110 billion in 2007) and by means of government agencies, activities and enterprises. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health and Care Services has sector responsibility and advocacy for the public health work in other sectors. Public health work is the society's aggregate effort to improve factors that promote health, diminish factors that entail a health risk and protect against external threats to health. Furthermore, the public health work should help promote a more equal social distribution of factors that affect health.

- In 2009, Acceptance and coping - National HIV strategy (2009-2014) was launched.
- The strategy is multisectoral and involves six different ministries; Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion, Ministry of Children and Equality, Ministry of Health and Care Services, Ministry of Justice and the Police, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- The main aim of this strategy is that at the end of the strategy period, Norway will be a society that accepts and copes with HIV in a way that both limits new infections and gives persons living with HIV good conditions for social inclusion in all phases of their lives.

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### Contact

**Ministry of Health and Care Services/**

**Helse- og omsorgsdepartementet**

**Location:** Teatergata 3

**Postal address:** PO. Box 8011 Dep, N-0030 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 22 24 90 90

**E-mail:** [postmottak@hod.dep.no](mailto:postmottak@hod.dep.no)

**Website:** [www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/hod.html](http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/hod.html)



## THE NORWEGIAN RED CROSS

The Norwegian RC support HIV/AIDS programs both nationally and globally through millions of RC volunteers. The main focus for the RCRC HIV programs is to prevent further spread of the disease and to fight stigma and discrimination.

The Red Cross is advocating on behalf of vulnerable groups by raising important issues like ensuring universal access to treatment, the right to be born free of HIV and fighting against criminalization of PLHIV and key affected populations. The RCRC global alliance on HIV provides a common platform for harmonized programming and reporting. Working towards integrated programming HIV prevention is streamlined into TB and community health programs where feasible.

The Norwegian Red Cross priority areas for program support is: youth peer education, care for orphans and vulnerable children, advocacy against stigma and discrimination, reducing gender equality and tackling sexual and gender based violence and access to medical care and support. Our main target groups are orphans and vulnerable children, youth and marginalized groups and decision makers.

Our objective for AIDS 2012 is to continue our advocacy work to ensure that the rights of PLHIV and other key affected populations to access HIV prevention, care, and treatment remains high on the global and political arena.

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### Contact

**The Norwegian Red Cross/Røde Kors**

**Location:** Oslo Norway

**Postal address:** Hausmannsgate 7, P.B. 1 Grønland, N-0133 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 22 05 40 00

**Fax:** +47 22 05 40 40

**E-mail:** nrx.center@redcross.no

**Website:** www.redcross.no, www.ifrc.org

## THE NORWEGIAN RED CROSS YOUTH

**The Norwegian Red Cross youth is the youth organization for all Red Cross volunteers between 13 and 30. Sexual Health is one of our main focus areas.**

Through our sexual health peer-education program called Active Choice, we encourage youth to make active choices for their own sexual health. We use interactive methods and exercises, condom demonstrations and open discussions to spread information. We talk with youth on their terms, at schools, youth clubs and other places where young people are found. We believe that youth need to be heard and consulted in matters concerning them.

### Our main goals are:

- to increase knowledge about HIV and STIs among youth
- better sexual education in schools
- adequate health services for youth
- to end criminalization of people living with HIV in Norway
- to end stigmatization through dissemination of knowledge

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### Contact

**The Norwegian Red Cross youth/Røde Kors Ungdom**

**Location:** Oslo Norway

**Postal address:** Hausmannsgate 7, P.B. 1 Grønland, N-0133 Oslo, Norway

**Telephone:** +47 22 05 40 00

**Fax:** +47 22 05 40 40

**E-mail:** nrx.center@redcross.no

**Website:** www.redcross.no, www.ifrc.org

## THE NORWEGIAN STUDENTS' AND ACADEMICS' INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FUND (SAIH)

SAIH is the solidarity organisation of students and academics in Norway. SAIH focuses on education in development cooperation, as well as North/South information and political advocacy in Norway. SAIH collaborates with local organisations with financial support for education and capacity building for youth in southern Africa and Latin-America.

Strengthening the rights of young people is especially important in the fight against HIV. Youth and students are a particularly vulnerable group, but they are also a group with great potential to be agents of change. Education and knowledge about sex and sexuality is a key to whether young people may realize their rights. A comprehensive approach to sexuality education including a focus on gender roles, power relations, identity and sexual orientation is important in the fight against HIV, discrimination and gender based violence. It's also critical that youth and other marginalised groups get access to decision-making arenas and to take part in developing HIV policies and initiatives.

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### Contact

**Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH)/Studentenes og Akademikernes Internasjonale Hjelpesfond**  
**Location:** Storgata 11  
**Postal address:** Storgata 11, N-0155 Oslo, Norway  
**Telephone:** +47 21 06 34 70  
**E-mail:** saih@saih.no  
**Website:** www.saih.no and www.saih.no/hiv

## THE PRO CENTRE

A national centre of expertise on prostitution and a social welfare and health service centre for male, female and transgender sex workers.

### Our vision

We envision a society without prostitution, where everyone will experience that their fundamental human rights are safeguarded and where they can live out their potential. We will offer people in prostitution the help they want based on the belief that everyone has the right to choose their own path to a better life. We want to reduce prejudices and myths and replace them with insight and knowledge.

### Our services

- Drop-in centre and outreach work aimed at sex workers
- Case work with a focus on empowerment and change
- Health care with a focus on sexual and reproductive health, as well as substance abuse and infection control

### We shall also

- Look at preventive strategies, have an equal opportunity perspective and keep up-to-date on trends in Norway and internationally
- Provide advice, information and knowledge about prostitution, prepare documentation and work to change attitudes

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### Contact

**The Pro Centre/Pro Sentret**  
**Location:** Tollbugt. 24, 0157 Oslo  
**Postal address:** N-0157 Oslo  
**Telephone:** +47 23 10 02 00  
**Fax:** +47 22 41 05 44  
**E-mail:** prosentret@vei.oslo.kommune.no  
**Website:** www.prosentret.no





SAIH | Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund



SEX OG POLITIKK .NO



Norad



NIBR Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research

kast

kunnskapsenteret Nasjonalt kunnskapscenter for helsetjenesten



HivNorway



KIRKENS NØDHJELP actalliance



Skeiv Ungdom



PION PROSTITUERTES INTERESSEORGANISASJON I NORGE



Røde Kors



CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF NORWAY NYE NORGES KRISTNE RÅD

ONE BODY NORDIC-FOCCISA church cooperation on HIV and AIDS

KIRKENS BYMISJON AKSEPT SENTER FOR ALLE BERØRT AV HIV

IPMV SENTER FOR HELSE, DIALOG OG UTVEKLING







