



nswp Global Network of Sex Work Projects
Promoting Health and Human Rights

The Smart Sex Workers Guide

Sex work related activities at the 18th International AIDS Conference | Vienna, Austria

From 18 to 23 July 2010, the **Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP)**, together with sex workers and allies from nearly 40 countries, gathered at the 18th International AIDS Conference, in Vienna, Austria.

With red umbrellas that were visible at plenary, in sessions, on stage and at protests throughout the week, sex workers demanded that donors, governments, policy makers, researchers, and other key players recognise and support the human rights of sex workers.

AIDS 2010 had taken on the promotion and protection of human rights as central conference theme.

“Rights Here, Right Now” was the slogan to emphasise the right to dignity and self-determination, to equal access to health care and to life-saving health programmes.

In line with this focus, the NSWP had adopted **“Only rights can stop the wrongs”** to call for the recognition of sex workers’ rights as human rights.

The **SMART SEX WORKERS GUIDE** brings an overview of the sex work related activities in Vienna. It includes some figures, program descriptions, media reports and, most importantly, comments from sex workers and allies about the impact of the pre-meeting and the conference.

“As the most organised and visible community at the IAC, from public actions to main conference events, NSWP has scaled up sex worker visibility in the HIV/AIDS response. Our red umbrellas were, by the end of the conference, recognisable to all present as a symbol of the international movement to repeal punitive laws around people involved in the sex trade.”

Will Rockwell
Spread Magazine, USA

Pre-meeting for sex workers and allies

The pre-meeting for sex workers and allies took place on 17 July 2010. The one-day meeting brought together 80 activists from the global sex workers’ movement who exchanged and discussed about how to effectively demand sex workers rights at the conference.



Participants at the NSWP pre-meeting

Highlights of AIDS 2010

The conference consisted of different types of activities: sessions, debates, workshops, film screenings, performances, protests and human rights rallies. Most of the activities took place inside the main conference venue, in the Global Village and in the NSWP networking zone.



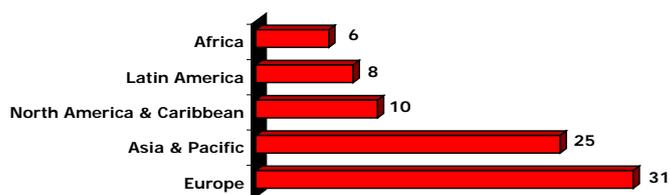
The NSWP networking zone at the Global Village

For a report about the main issues affecting sex workers at the conference, check out the PLRI website at www.plri.org

Pre-meeting for sex workers and allies

NSWP's pre-meeting for sex workers and allies took place at the *Lawie*, a community education venue in Vienna. Registration started at 9.30am, the official program at 10.30am, the event finished at around 5pm. The venue was prepared for more than 100 participants, sex workers and allies, who had applied and registered for the pre-meeting. One big plenary room, decorated with red umbrellas and posters with demands of sex workers movements from various regions, and two smaller rooms for group work were available. NSWP provided lunch and two coffee breaks during the day. More than 80 activists attended the meeting.

Number of persons at the pre-meeting



Participation: 105 persons were registered, 9 participants attended without prior registration, 80 individuals participated at the meeting, 5 volunteers from the team of LEFÖ, the local NSWP partner, provided support with the organisation of the event and with translations.

“ *The conference was a real facilitator to me: I was greatly motivated by the different sex workers and activists that I have met... I know that each of us learnt new strategies to take back home, which will make our fight stronger for all what we, sex workers and activists, want for the future. Persons from all the regions shared the problems they are facing and were able to stand as one, to fight tougher as one. I know for sure that our voices were heard!*

Miriam Edwards
One Love Organisation
Caribbean Sex Workers Coalition
GUYANA

THE MORNING SESSION

Upon registration, participants received a pre-meeting pack which included: a red umbrella, an NSWP bag with the *Roadmap* to sex work related activities at the conference, the *Practical Guide*, the *Smart Person's Guide to HIV and Sex Work*, the new *The Global Network of Sex work Projects* brochure as well as “*Only Rights can Stop the Wrongs*” and “*Sex Work is Work*” buttons (available in 5 languages). The meeting was started off by a brief welcome message, presented by five activists in different languages: Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

WELCOME!

Dear sex workers and allies! Colleagues, friends, activists from 38 countries, from Australia to Zimbabwe, from all 5 regions of the NSWP.

On behalf of the Global Network of Sex Work Projects, we welcome you to the pre-meeting for sex workers and allies.

This meeting will start off our participation at the International AIDS Conference.

But more than that: it brings together sex workers and sex worker rights activists in the fight to oppose the criminalisation of sex workers, our clients and our businesses and to call for states to recognise that sex workers rights are human rights which they are required to protect.

It is a unique opportunity for us to grow and learn – as a network and as partners in this struggle.

We welcome you – and we wish you all a fruitful, productive and empowering day of work and pleasure!

In order to facilitate the exchange and present the realities of the five NSWP regions, the participants were asked to discuss their priorities in regional groups. Afterwards, the results – main issues and recommendations of each region – were presented in plenary.

REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Africa

- When addressing issues of violence against sex workers, female, male and transgender sex workers should be equally considered.
- HIV/AIDS should be a priority in governmental policies. There is need for more funding for HIV, STI and SRH (sexual & reproductive health) based programmes, which do not discriminate against and stigmatise sex workers.
- The civil society should be more involved in lobbying for sex workers' rights.
- There is need for more funding for advocacy work on legal reforms regarding sex workers'

“ Finally sex workers from all regions, in particular from Africa, walked with their shoulders high and spoke openly about their work, thanks to the support of NSWP. ”

Peninah Mwangi

Director of BHESP, sex worker rights activist for Africa, KENYA

rights, as well as to collect reliable data on sex workers working conditions.

- There is need for more capacity building training within sex worker led organisations, including education.
- There is need to monitor and evaluate HIV/AIDS funding for sex workers.
- There is need to create forums for sex workers and donors in Africa, in order to push governments to end abuses against sex workers and to develop appropriate services for sex workers.
- There is need to involve sex workers in all policy decisions and research regarding sex work.
- There is need to end stigmatisation of MARPs (*most at risk populations*) and advocate for sex workers', MSMs' and drug users' identity.
- There is need to end stigma and discrimination, police rapes and tortures, illegal working environments, and inadequate access to health and legal services!

Asia and Pacific

- There is need of massive scale-up of appropriate interventions for sex workers in order to promote affordable and comprehensive health services.
- There is need to recognize the diversity of sex workers, their rights and needs, based on the dynamics of the epidemic.
- There is need of recognition of sex work as an occupation.
- There is need to remove laws that directly or indirectly violate the human rights of sex workers.

Europe

- There is need to stop discrimination! In many European countries sex workers are forced to stop working if they are HIV positive. In Austria, sex workers who are registered, have to inform the police that they are going on holidays, and if pregnant, have to stop working.
- There is need to stop the criminalisation of clients of sex workers.
- Public health Services should be independent! They should not be obliged to pass on information to the police and other authorities. Sex work is not a disease!
- Sex workers have labour and human rights, including the right to access to health services, regardless of their residence status.
- The legislation on sex work varies significantly throughout Europe, and most of them are becoming more and more repressive towards sex workers.
- One tendency is, however, common to all European countries: the anti-migration policies. The European Union must open their borders to guarantee human rights!

- There is need to use more often the *Brussels Declaration of Sex Workers' Rights*, to improve and increase advocacy work in Europe.

Latin America

- There is need to end gender violence in Latin America, which is structural, social and cultural, and is responsible for the institutional vulnerability of sex workers.
- There is need to, more often, make use of international agencies for advocacy work, like UNAIDS and ILO (*International Labour Organisation*).
- There is need to end the violence against sex workers' human rights. NSWP could play a significant role by supporting regional advocacy actions and by developing the *Declaration for NO MORE violence against sex workers*.
- There is need to extinguish PEPFAR (*the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief*).
- End discrimination! Sex workers are the only group that is forced to undergo HIV testing.
- We want integral and not special health services for sex workers.
- We, sex workers, have the same rights as others, because we are not different than others. Sex workers have the right to work and to have children.



North America and the Caribbean

- Repeal punitive laws, policies and practices around all sex work communities, because they are barriers to combat HIV/AIDS and STI, both within the North-American as in the Caribbean Region.
- In the Caribbean area, sex work is criminalised. Therefore, sex workers have no access to health and social services. This has to be changed.
- Services for sex workers should be run by sex workers.
- Sex workers' voices have to be heard and considered.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session focused on introducing participants to the conference itself and on strategising around sex workers activities.

It started off with an elaborate presentation of the NSWP roadmap to sex work related activities at the conference. The roadmap includes information about conference sessions, the Global Village program and activities in the NSWP networking zone.

Each of these areas had a different graphic equivalent, in order to facilitate the guidance throughout the great amount of activities happening each day, and very often, at the same time.

Attached to the posters were their display numbers. This made it easier to find them in the big hall where they were all displayed.

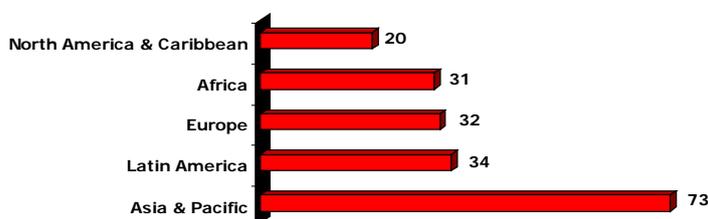
The NSWP roadmap to sex work related activities at the conference was produced in two versions:

- as handouts that were distributed during the pre-meeting
- as printed posters (one poster per day) which were displayed on the outside wall of the NSWP networking zone in the Global Village, providing the activities with great visibility

POSTERS

There were a total of **190** posters related directly or indirectly to sex work and AIDS. They were exhibited in Hall B of the Conference site. The content of the posters were related to experiences or projects in different areas around the world. Here is their thematic distribution according to the NSWP regions:

Thematic distribution of the posters



“ The pre-meeting gave me, through the sex workers' roadmap, the possibility to gain an overview of the important sessions of the conference; it gave me also the opportunity to learn about sex workers' issues in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin and North America. Unfortunately, there were too many sessions on sex workers' issues that overlapped, making it difficult for participants to follow all. Maybe this could be evaluated for the next conference in 2012.

Aldo
OPSI, Indonesian Sex Worker Organizations, INDONESIA

“ The "red light district" at the Global Village was very successful. The different booths gave information to all kind of topics, like migration and sex work; sex work=work; the consequences of law. This made an exciting networking process possible.”
maiz, AUSTRIA

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

There were **32** different conference sessions related to sex work, including abstract presentations, poster discussions and workshops.

GLOBAL VILLAGE

There were **24** activities related to sex work in the Global Village, including film screenings, performances, workshops, presentations and a fashion show.

NSWP Networking Zone

There were **11** activities that were carried out in the networking zone, including film screenings, discussions and performances.



The group at the NSWP pre-meeting for sex workers and allies

The afternoon ended with a discussion on how to better represent sex workers' demands during the conference and on how to enhance sex workers' visibility.

Conclusion

The pre-meeting offered a space to meet and to prepare for the coming week which would be an important opportunity to speak up for sex workers rights and to show the world that sex workers won't be silenced.

Highlights of AIDS 2010

There were different possibilities to get involved in the conference. The conference program was divided into three sorts of activities:

1. **Plenary** – daily sessions in the main conference plenary room, during which time no other sessions were held.
2. **Concurrent Sessions** – abstract driven sessions (oral presentations, poster exhibition, poster presentation) and non-abstract driven sessions (bridging sessions, special sessions, symposia, workshops). To participate at the plenary or any other of the conference sessions, participants had to have a registration as delegate or as speaker. Without such a registration, it was not possible to enter the conference venue. The venue was open from 8am to 8pm, from Sunday 18 to Friday 23 July 2010.
3. **Global Village** – consisted of sessions, NGO booths, marketplace booths, networking zones and cultural program activities. Entrance to the Global Village was free and it was open from 8.30am to 8.30pm, from Sunday 18 to Friday 23 July 2010.

Tracks

The conference was divided into six tracks or areas. The conference sessions were always specific to one of the tracks. The six tracks were:

- Track **A** - Basis Sciences
- Track **B** - Clinical Sciences
- Track **C** - Epidemiology and Prevention Sciences
- Track **D** - Social and Behavioural Sciences
- Track **E** - Economics, Operations Research, Care and Health Systems
- Track **F** - Policy, Law, human Rights and Political Sciences

“I was greatly impressed when I found so many sex workers from such different countries, participating of the IAC; to know that they are also aware about their rights, and that they are willing to share with us their ongoing activities. I found out that we are not alone struggling for our existence but that there are also many others doing it as well.”
Bharati, Sonagachi, INDIA

SIDE EVENTS

There were events which were organised in conjunction with the Conference, but were held away from the main conference site and outside of the normal hours of conference events, like pre-conferences, meetings, lectures, courses, cultural activities, marches and demonstrations.

The most visible one was the **Human Rights March**, which happened in the centre of Vienna, with about 10 thousand participants, including sex workers and their red umbrellas.

“I was impressed how sex workers' issues like human rights, education and fair treatment by the police were considered and referred to, and how people responded, at the Human Rights demonstration, to the unfulfilled promises of funding for Africa.”
**Organisation OSISA
SOUTH AFRICA**

AWARDS FOR SEX WORK PROJECTS

The Conference also served to recognise the work done by different organisations across the world.

The 2010 International Award for Action on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights
HOPS, the **Healthy Options Project Skopje** of **Macedonia** was the 2010 recipient of this international Award, which recognises outstanding individuals and organizations that protect the rights and dignity of people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. In 2009 HOPS produced a video, **“You must know about me,”** used in advocacy activities.

The Red Ribbon Award

The 2010 **Red Ribbon Award**, which celebrates community leadership and action on AIDS, recognised three sex worker organisations as doing exemplary work to end the AIDS epidemic in their communities.

The **Red Ribbon Award 2010** was awarded to:

■ **NIKAT Women's Association** is the first community-based association in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia that is devoted to improving the living conditions of low-income women and commercial sex workers, thereby fighting poverty and protecting the right to health.

Other groups which were nominated and received **regional awards** were:

■ **Chrysalide** operates a centre of support for women with HIV, drug users, sex workers and ex-prisoners, and has through HIV prevention and sensitization programmes reduced stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in communities throughout Mauritius.

“ For the first time in the history of Africa, there was visibility of African sex workers throughout the presentations and the march. For the first time, issues regarding the barriers of sex workers to access prevention and care in Africa were presented by sex workers themselves. ”

Kyomya Macklean

Women Organisations Network for Human Rights Advocacy, UGANDA



Sex workers protest at PEPFAR's collective (Foto APA)

■ **Asociación de Mujeres Meretrices de la Argentina (AMMAR)** is a network of 15.000 sex workers in Argentina that has successfully advocated for the adoption of municipal ordinances to protect and promote the rights of sex workers.

SOME OF THE PRESENTATIONS BY SEX WORKERS & ACTIVISTS

- Meena Seshu, NSWP member and General Secretary of SANGRAM in Sangli, India, delivered the Jonathan Mann Memorial Lecture at a plenary session. Her talk, entitled “No Excuses: A Living Experience of the Struggle for Rights,” had standing ovations at an audience of about 1.500 persons. You can view Meena’s speech from 1:01:30 in the video: <http://globalhealth.kff.org/AIDS2010/July-22/Thursday-Plenary.aspx>
- During the *Role of Families in HIV Prevention, Treatment, Care, and Support* session, Laxmi Narayan Tripathi of India presented her talk “Reflection on the Implications of Family Cantered Approaches and the Role of the Non Heteronormative Family in the Lives of People from Sexual Minorities.”
- UNAIDS had a panel on “Exploring combination prevention: the way forward”, co-chaired by NSWP Interim Global Coordinator Ruth Morgan Thomas.
- Will Rockwell and Thierry Schaffauser presented “Work it! Young Sex Workers’ Policy Issues” at the Vienna Youth Force Pre-Conference.
- Members of the European Networks SWAN and TAMPEP presented a session on “Sex work and migration within and out of Central Europe & Central Asia”.
- NSWP organised a panel session “Only Rights Can Stop the Wrongs”, where members from Latin America, Europe, Africa, South East and Central Asia described sex workers’ human rights issues in their region.
- IPPF and NSWP had a common session on “More than just lip service: scaling up sex work initiatives”.
- Many other NSWP members spoke on panels and did poster presentations.

PRESS PROTEST ACTIONS

Denying sex workers HIV funds

Titania Kumeh, Mother Jones, 23.07.2010

Full article online:

www.motherjones.com/mojo/2010/07/sex-workers-need-hiv-funds-international-aids-conference-vienna

Today marked the end of the biennial International AIDS Conference in Vienna, where one crucial group remained absent from headlines but not silent at the event—which is where Peninah Mwangi fits in. Mwangi's been a sex worker in Kenya for 15 years. During that time, she's also worked with the Bar Hostess Empowerment and Support Programme and the African Sex Worker Alliance to get sex work recognized as a job and to improve access to health and social services. For several years, both of Mwangi's groups have applied for HIV/AIDS prevention funding through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and been denied. “We couldn't understand why we were denied. Many women were dying,” Mwangi tells me on the phone. Then three years ago, a PEPFAR rep told her the reason: “We cannot fund you unless you get out of sex work.”

PEPFAR's condemnation of sex work is why Mwangi is currently in Vienna for the AIDS conference. During the week-long summit, amidst discussion of new HIV prevention strategies and the lack of money to disperse them, about 100 sex workers from all walks of life and their advocates marched through the IAC conference centre chanting “sex worker rights are human rights.” [...]

“We need HIV treatment but we don't need the mandate that sex workers are excluded,” says Pisey Ly of Cambodia's Women's Network for Unity (WNU), a sex worker advocate organization. When WNU applied for US HIV prevention funds, it was denied and told to drop its sex worker status, Ly says. It refused. Because of PEPFAR's anti-prostitution policy, Ly says, many donors and NGOs that once worked with Cambodian sex workers have abandoned them for fear of losing their US funding. [...]

“ *The Human Rights March was wonderful, powerful and sensitive. During the event I started to understand much better why we do our work. And I definitely had a feeling that we are not alone, even if it looks like that from time to time...* ”

Lubica Tornoczyova
SLOVAKIA

PRESS HUMAN RIGHTS MARCH



The climate also warmed up outside the IAC

Flavio Lenz, Davida, Rio de Janeiro
From Vienna, 21.07.2010

The Human Rights March happened on the evening of the 3rd day of the IAC2010. It was carried out in the centre of Vienna, with the participation of about 15 thousand persons. Besides the AIDS activists, thousands of residents walked the street, with banners and posters. Led by Julio Montaner, president of the conference, and Michel Sidibé, UNAIDS director, the event had the participation of the Goodwill Ambassador of UNAIDS, the singer Annie Lennox. Sex workers and allies linked to NSWP were also there, with many red umbrellas and posters, calling for sex workers' rights. Alexandra Gil, an activist from Mexico, remarked that groups like gay people, HIV-infected, sex workers and others were not very visible, as it happened during the IAC 2008 in Mexico, because in Vienna "We walked all together..."

“ *To be able to participate at the NSWP networking zone was an important experience because it allowed us to get in contact with sex workers from different countries and share experiences with them.* ”

Cynthia Navarrete and Alejandra Gil
APROASE A.C.
MEXICO

GLOBAL VILLAGE

The Global Village was an exhibition space for NGOs and grassroots organisations, an international gathering place to display information, highlight cultural and community issues, and for activities like theatre, performances and film screenings. It was open to delegates and to the general public and entrance was free.

There were different types of spaces:

- **Sessions:** included panel discussions, debates and presentations
- **Networking Zones:** for groups focused on particular communities or regions
- **Main Stage:** a space for live performances of music, dance and theatre
- **Video and ICT Lounge:** for film screenings
- **Literary Lounge:** live readings and discussions
- **NGO Booths:** for NGOs to promote their work
- **Marketplace Booths:** a place for NGOs to sell their products to generate income
- **Art Exhibitions:** space to exhibit sculptures, installations, photos and paintings
- **Community Dialogue Space:** a place for delegates and the general public to engage with community-based organisations
- **Youth Pavilion:** networking place for young people



The NSWP networking zone's outside wall with the exhibition of the roadmap

“ *The Global Village gave me the possibility to speak at the Women's Networking Space, where I could share my experience on behalf of Asian sex workers and inform about the Malaysian law on the "shariah". This conference made me confident to speak out as a sex worker.* ”

Selvi, MALAYSIA

The Opening Ceremony of the Global Village was hosted by sex workers' rights activist Laxmi Tripathi. It opening featured speeches by international and local representatives and highlighted the communities that were represented at the Global Village and who carried signs onto the stage displaying their demands.

To increase sex workers' visibility at the conference, the sex work related booths (2 marketplace booths, 6 NGO exhibition booths, 1 networking zone) were organised in one area of the Global Village creating a little "red light district" that highlighted sex workers demands.



The Global Village Opening Ceremony

GLOBAL VILLAGE ACTIVITIES BY SEX WORKERS & ACTIVISTS

- Panel Discussion on "The situation of HIV/AIDS in the MSM milieu in Africa: rights, prevention and the exclusion from health programmes in Cameroon and Kenya", with John Mathenge
- Session on "Community run advocacy groups as a tool to fight HIV. The inclusive approach of the French sex workers union STRASS (*Syndicat du Travail Sexuel*)", with Thierry Schaffauser and Camille Cabral
- Session on "Obstacles and challenges the transgender population in Latin America need to face in order to increase active and effective participation in protecting and promoting their human rights", with members of RedLacTrans
- Session on "HIV prevention among migrant male sex workers", with Andrew Hunter
- *Super Puta*, a performance done by the Austrian NGO *maiz* that supports migrant sex workers
- APNSW (Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers) presented *Star Whores*, a political dance performance



Models at the end of the DASPU show (Photo: Marc De Clercq)

PRESS FASHION SHOW

First DASPU fashion show in Europe brings models from 17 countries

Flavio Lenz, *Davidas*, Rio de Janeiro
From Vienna, 21.07.2010

With 30 models from 17 countries of five continents, DASPU made its first fashion show in Europe. DASPU is the fashion label of the sex workers' organisation *Davidas*, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The presentation, during the XVIII International AIDS Conference in Vienna, attracted a huge audience for the main stage of the Global Village, the civil society sector.

Women, men and transgender sex workers walked down the catwalk under the rhythm of samba, bossa nova, pop and rock, showing a mix of the label's collections. On several pieces, there were messages for sexual and labour rights, and prevention of AIDS, showing that fashion and activism can go together.

One of the highlights was Camille Cabral, a Brazilian transsexual activist who lives in France, wearing a vintage dress of the DASPU label. For her, "the visibility is important to reduce the discrimination." Another one was Angela Villon, a Peruvian sex worker, who gave a show of sensuality, offering condoms to the public. Two Japanese entered the catwalk with the red umbrella, the international symbol for sex workers' rights.

The models came, among others, from Bulgaria, Russia, Kenya, France, Italy, Mozambique, Peru in a show of diversity. The most significant for them was, however, to participate in a joint action in the defence of the rights of sex workers.

"I felt great on the catwalk. Being there, together, defending our ideas in such a fantastic way is a great achievement," said Angela Villon.

“ Sex workers and the networks became stronger, creative and more supportive to each other, compared to Mexico IAC 2008. I wish that more space would be created for sex workers around the globe; that opportunities are given as a way to empower sex workers and increase their visibility as workers. NSWP plays a crucial role to ensure the space for sex workers to be heard. ”

Pisey, CAMBODIA

The NSWP networking zone

The Networking Zone was decorated mainly with red umbrellas, which were hanging down from the walls and placed all around the NWZ. Posters, photos and different textiles, including red saris, completed the decoration.

The posters exhibited were of two sorts: 1) the **roadmap** on sex work and AIDS issues, hanging on one of the outside walls, a passage “road”, and 2) the **regional priorities**, hanging on the inside of the NZ, representing the five NSWP regions.

In order to turn it into a meeting place for sex workers and allies, there were five small round tables with chairs set up in the NWZ, as shown in the photo below.



NSWP red umbrellas, buttons and key rings were distributed in the NZ. Information materials from the different partner organisations were displayed on tables to be taken for free.

The NSWP NWZ turned out to be a very important meeting place for sex workers and allies to coordinate actions and activities during the conference. It offered also a comfortable point to exchange and meet new persons, to participate in the activities programmed for the NWZ, and to rest from long hours of walking around...

Each day, there were other participants from the different NSWP organisations responsible for informing people visiting the NWZ, distributing materials and organising the activities.

ACTIVITIES IN THE NZ

MONDAY

Documentary

You must know about me
HOPS, Macedonia

Book presentation

Of course its work! Think sex work beyond victimisation
Nengeh Mensah, Canada

TUESDAY

Film

Otras Vias | transgender sex workers in Germany
FrauenLesbenFilm-Kollektiv, MucoLade, Germany

Film

Wo anders sein | drug using sex workers in Germany
Ragazza, Germany

Video & Discussion

DASPU Pret à Porter | sex workers' fashion label.
Davida, Brazil.

Performance

Against everyone and everything
Bliss without Risk, Czech Republic

WEDNESDAY

Film

The Sex Workers' World Cup 2006 in Germany
Independent Filmmakers, Germany

THURSDAY

Video

Tenofovir Trial in Cambodia
Cambodia

In the ICRSE booth

Hello, my name is...

The ICRSE, the **International Committee for the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe**, created this logo for the participation of sex workers at AIDS 2010.

In the ICRSE booth, Petra Timmermans, the ICRSE coordinator, launched a campaign, in which sex workers' rights supporters were photographed signing a sticker that said:

“My name is and I support sex workers' rights.”

The photos, about 100, were later put up on the ICRSE website.

<http://www.sexworkeurope.org/icrse/index.php/en/resources-mainmenu-189/image-gallery/category/10-hello-my-name-is-campaign>



The NSWP marketplace

The NSWP marketplace was an area of 4m² in the Global Village. The booth was equipped with a table and two chairs and was decorated with the products that the sex workers groups were selling.

Organisations exhibiting products

12 organisations used the NSWP marketplace space to present and sell their products. They represented the following countries: Australia, Brazil, India, Kenya, Mexico, Peru and Slovakia. Two European and one global network also presented their products in the marketplace.

Products for sale

T-shirts, sandals, bags, books, bracelets, buttons, necklaces, DVD, key rings, blouses, earrings, and umbrellas.

Opening hours

The market place was open from Sunday 18th to Friday 23rd July.

The presence in the MP was divided into shifts of about 4 hours each. The shifts were taken over by the members of the organisations exhibiting in the MP and by team members of the local NSWP partner LEFÖ. The shifts were organised from 9am to 6.30pm.



Left
The SWAN marketplace, the Central European and Central Asia network of sex workers projects.

Below
The NSWP marketplace



Media coverage of sex workers' activities

NSWP Roundup of Sex Worker Activism at the International AIDS Conference

<http://iac.nswp.org/2010/08/03/roundup-of-sex-worker-activism-at-the-international-aids-conference/>

Online

Scandal at AIDS-Conference: Prostitutes storm the hall

Activists protested at press conference of US-AIDS-Coordinator Eric Goosby against the discrimination of sex workers by a multi-million US prevention program

Heute.at, 20 July 2010 (German)

www.heute.at/news/oesterreich/wien/Eklat-bei-Aids-Konferenz-Prostituierte-stuermen-Saal:art931.374793

Sex workers stormed press conference of US representative

Conflicts also among the delegates of the International AIDS Conference in Vienna: On Tuesday, protesting sex workers stormed a press conference with Eric Goosby, global AIDS-Coordinator of the USA

Vorarlberg online, 20 July 2010 (German)

www.vol.at/news/welt/artikel/sexarbeiter-stuermten-pressekonzferenz-von-us-vertreter/cn/news-20100720-03483624

AIDS 2010: Sex workers storm press conference

At a press conference of the coordinator of the US-HIV-program PEPFAR, protestors expressed their discontent. The program demands of NGOs to adopt a position against prostitution

DiePresse.com, 20 July 2010 (German)

www.diepresse.com/home/panorama/wien/aids2010/582450/index.do?_vl_backlink=/home/panorama/wien/index.do

“ This conference showed that in areas where sex workers have been involved in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of HIV/STI programmes, there is less violation of sex workers' human rights and sex workers have increased access to health services.

Kyomya Macklean

Women Organisations Network for Human Rights Advocacy, UGANDA

Sex workers storm conference of US representative

Kleine Zeitung, 20 July 2010 (German)
www.kleinezeitung.at/nachrichten/chronik/aids/2411264/sexarbeiter-stuermtten-pressekonferenz-us-vertreter_story

Protesters storm AIDS Conference

Advocate.com, 20 July 2010
www.advocate.com/News/Daily_News/2010/07/20/Protesters_Storm_AIDS_Conference

Fashion „from the whores“ at show in Vienna

Brazilian prostitutes fashion label DASPU displays at the XVIII International AIDS Conference diestandard.at, 20 July 2010 (German)
www.diestandard.at/1277338509173/Mode-vonden-Huren-bei-Schau-in-Wien

Sex workers put on a fashion show to fight AIDS

AFP (Agence France Press), 21 July 2010
www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hNSd60WVAQ_Ym6IRflmGernXYFg

Dreams at Risk: Overcoming barriers for at-risk populations

Challenges of marginalized, HIV positive in Eastern Europe
Global Health Magazine, 22 July 2010
www.globalhealthmagazine.com/aids_conference_blog_top_stories/marps

Kampala sex workers demonstrate at AIDS conference

The New Vision, 23 July 2010
www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/13/726735

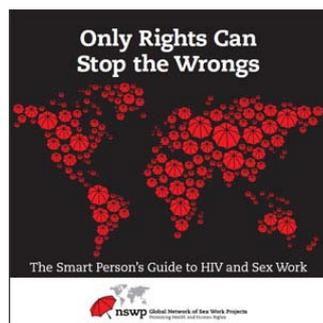
AIDS-conference, human rights march, sex workers storm a press conference

nochrachten.net, 26 July 2010 (German)
www.nochrichten.net/?p=434

Sex workers storm International AIDS Conference in Vienna

no-racism.net, 31 July 2010 (German)
<http://www.no-racism.net/article/3451/>

NSWP Smart Guide



The Smart Person's Guide to HIV and Sex Work July 2010
<http://iac.nswp.org/2010/07/15/only-rights-can-stop-the-wrongs-the-smart-person%E2%80%99s-guide-to-hiv-and-sex-work/>

On the radio

AIDS-conference, human rights march, sex workers storm a press conference

Radio Orange 94.0, 26 July 2010 (English and German)
<http://sendungsarchiv.o94.at/get.php?id=094pr4532>

Sex work is work!

Interview with ICRSE Coordinator Petra Timmermans who was in Vienna on the occasion of the International AIDS Conference
Radio Orange 94.0, 28 July 2010 (English and German)
<http://sendungsarchiv.o94.at/get.php/094pr4541>

“ It was very nice to meet my friends in Vienna. It was an unforgettable and extremely valuable experience. The poster presentations, the DASPU fashion show, the different meetings, the Human Rights March: it was like one voice calling for respect for our rights! We showed that together if we can reach it, that being united makes us strong.

Haydee Elguera
Asociación de Trabajadoras Sexuales
"Woman del Callao"
PERU

On video

Sex workers put on a fashion show to fight AIDS

by AFP (Agence France Press) on YouTube
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIOIQI9dGFI

Sex workers rights are human rights!

by viennayouthforce on YouTube
www.youtube.com/watch?v=iwO-f83wz7c

Sex workers demand their rights

by viennayouthforce on YouTube
www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVb5Askytjc&NR=1

International AIDS Conference 2010: Activists Hijack Opening Ceremony

by housingworksvideos on YouTube
www.youtube.com/watch?v=1hJnRYNqEWU

Vienne 2010: manifestations des activistes

by yaggvideo on YouTube
www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXha-PgnyQM

Sex worker protest at AIDS 2010

by cybrspunk on YouTube
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZeBIPHZGOEO

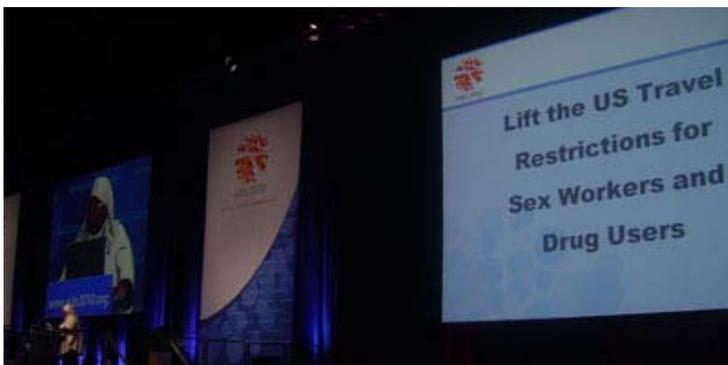
Sex workers protest at AIDS 2010

by ibgean on YouTube
www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG7G3u9VxSQ

Outlook: AIDS 2012 in Washington

PRESS

Conference ends with criticisms on USA



The North American activist Waheedah El-Shabazz projected a slide demanding the lift of the travel restrictions to the USA for sex workers and drug users. (Photo: Flavio Lenz)

US activists demand end of the travel ban for sex workers and drug users

Flavio Lenz, Davida, Rio de Janeiro
From Vienna, 23.07.2010

At the last plenary session of the International AIDS Conference 2010, the North American activist Waheedah El-Shabazz projected a slide against the restrictions on entry of sex workers and drug users in the United States and strongly criticized this policy.

"You see a country that still has much to progress and learn about AIDS issues", said Waheedah, referring to the next International Conference in Washington DC, in 2012. The slide "Lift restrictions on travel to the USA for sex workers and drug users" was on the screen for about three minutes, to the embarrassment of the U.S. ambassador Eric Goosby, responsible for PEPFAR, the policy which restricts actions against HIV/AIDS for sex workers. Goosby's embarrassment was greater when the entire delegation from Washington DC went on stage carrying protest posters and criticising even harder the American policy.



Protests at the conference closing session: "Drug users and sex workers, will they be welcomed to Washington DC in 2012?" (Photo: Flavio Lenz)

Sex work is work

Another speaker to defend the rights of sex workers was Rachel Ong, chair person of the Global Network of People Living with HIV. "Decriminalization is not enough. It is time to accept that sex work is work." Rachel also spoke about the discrimination and stigma that affect HIV-positive, LGBT people and drug users. "We need social, political and cultural changes. There are 51 countries in the world with restrictions to sero-positive people and 21 which deport them."

Washington delegation protests

Rachel Ong, Julio Montaner and Waheedah El-Shabazz had already warmed the climate of the closing session when the delegation from Washington DC was called up to the stage. While the spokesman, Larry Bryant, criticized U.S. policies on AIDS and reminded the plenary that the federal capital has 3% of residents living with HIV, of whom 76% are black, protesters carrying posters circled the stage in front of the audience.

“ The conference was very good, loads to learn and interact with other sex workers from all over the world. The demonstrations were good and enlightening as our voices were heard and aired and we were recognized all over the world including our country Kenya. We all hope to meet again to fight discrimination and stigma against sex workers and especially MSMs living with HIV/AIDS.

John Mathenge
Hoymas
KENYA

The **Smart Sex Workers Guide** was written and designed by the NSWP IAC 2010 Coordinators, Faika El-Nagashi and Veronica Munk. August 2010