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## STDS, STIS & HIV/AIDS

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## HIV / AIDS impact on human capital for development after realized text

Jacques Ntibarikure

Colonie des Pionniers du Développement CPD, Burundi

et us note that HIV / AIDS was considered only as a homosexual disease in the USA in the 1980s, and that it was identified as a public health problem of paramount importance 6 years later. HIV had spread to many countries in eastern, central and southern Africa and reached all other continents and most countries around the world. AIDS can destroy the development of the human capital, reduce the development of a country in its effort to improve child survival, extend life expectancy and give better chances in life through education and to a productive and stable life. This HIV pandemic contributed to the humanitarian and food crisis of the first years of the first millennium. Sub-Saharan Africa, for example, has experienced the most horrific

HIV epidemic ever seen with antenatal prevalence rates above 30%. Millions of children have lost their parents, life expectancy has declined many years and all areas of life have been affected to frightening degrees. HIV/AIDS challenges food security, productivity, availability of human resources and social, economic and cultural development. HIV/AIDS affects first and foremost individual families and households, but its impact reaches the macroeconomic level of all citizens of a country. By the year 2003, Sub-Saharan Africa numbered between 25 and 28.2 million children and adults living with HIV, and between 3 and 4 million adults and newly infected children.

e: colonie d@yahoo.fr

