

**INTEGRATED APPROACH:  
TRUCKERS' PARKING BAY FACILITY,  
AS ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD IN  
SALGAA "WILD WEST" NAKURU,  
KENYA.**

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# Introduction

- Globally, poorly constructed truckers parking bays cause environmental hazards.
- Well documentations show that transport workers and truck drivers in East Africa face much higher risk of hazards specifically HIV /AIDS spread than the general population. (Transport and the National AIDS Control Council in, 2005)

## Cont.

- Studies done in Kenya in small towns offering truckers stop and rest bay such as Mariakani, Voi, Mlolongo, Naivasha, Malaba and Busia, indicate that they face environmental hazards such as HIV/ AIDS, drug/ alcohol abuse among others Mainja, 2006)

# Cont.

- HIV Spread is one major hazard that perplex every society.
- Countries such as India, Thailand, Cambodia, Dominican republic face serious problems related to HIV/AIDs as a result of csw.  
Strategies in managing the HIV spread is proving successful – Integrated approach.

# Cont.

- Social organizations such as AMREF use conventional methods to control HIV/ Aids when they work with commercial sex workers
- Hazards such as fire resulting from oil spills and fuel leaks from overturned trucks are big disasters in Kenya.
- Over speeding trucks claim many lives and leave many with disability(Shileche, 2012)

## Cont.

- It is was found that Kenya's response to disasters is poor (Shileche, 2012).
- Illiteracy is high in areas where cswh is rampant. Young girls lured into sex trade

# Cont.

- Salgaa, a truck stop on the main Kenya-Uganda highway booming in sex trade attracts 1,000 commercial sex workers
- Sex sale is cheap and often cost as little as \$1, but the cost in human life is astronomical. Kevin Toolis(2012) reports from the ramshackle collection of huts and hotels that is helping to turn Kenya's AIDS epidemic into a holocaust.

## Cont.

- The entire Salgaa town is built around the sex trade and flourish for that one serious hazard: There are 23 bars, 5 Video clinics, 1000 prostitutes, 900 to 1100 truckers per night in a total population of 7,500 people. Without the women, the drivers wouldn't stop here (Toolis, 2012).



# Purpose

The purpose of this study is to examine the environmental hazards resulting from truckers parking and rest bay and evaluate the integrated approach to mitigating the environmental hazards resulting from truckers parking bay in Salgaa.

# Specific Objectives

1. To examine environmental hazards resulting from truckers parking and rest bay in Salgaa.
2. To evaluate the integrated approach to mitigating the environmental hazards resulting from the truckers parking and rest bay in Salgaa.

# Methodology

- This research used descriptive survey design. Random and purposeful sampling technique was employed.
- The respondents were purposefully selected to represent the true population of the affected community.
- Both primary and secondary data collection methods were used in the research.

# Cont.

- The research questionnaires, interview schedule and focus group discussions were both conducted and held in the night and during the day to cover the target group. Both open and closed format questions were used.
- Data was collected from 60 respondents drawn from 30 commercial sex workers, 20 truckers and 10 residents of Salgaa, selected by simple randomization.
- Reliability and validity of the instrument was tested through Cronbach test.

# Cont.

- The data was analysed by means of SPSS tool using descriptive statistics and hypotheses tested using regressions, ANOVA, and Lickert scale at 0.05 alpha for testing level of significance using questionnaires, focus group, selected by simple randomization.
- Qualitative methods were used because of their humanistic nature as they focus on the personal, subjective, and experiential basis of knowledge and practice.

# Results and Discussions

**Objective 1: To examine environmental hazards resulting from truckers parking and rest bay in Salgaa.**

- According to the research study, Salgaa known as “Wild West”. is a holocaust with numerous disasters
- The truck parking bay at Salgaa presents serious environmental hazards.

# Cont.

- The community within Salgaa area is exposed to serious environmental hazards.
- Major hazards are HIV/Aids spread, STDs, waterborne diseases, respiratory diseases (TB), family break up, young girls drop out of schools, used condoms litter on the ground, poor garbage collection, poor drainage systems, frequent oil spills and fuel fires, accidents caused by trucks and alcohol abuse.

## Cont.

- These results confirm other research studies in California Illinois, Malaba border, Mariakani at the coast and other parking bay facilities among others (Ajwang, 2010).



## Cont.

- Majority of respondents interviewed said that, sex trade business has resulted to a multiple of negative effects which bears serious implications on human health, biodiversity threat and extinction, illiteracy, family break up, accidental deaths and disabilities among other disasters.

# Findings

The study show that;

- Number of trucks parked per night – approx. 500
- Sex workers - approx. 1000;
- Sex workers age range - 15 and 60 yrs.
- Out of 1000, young girls 15 to 24 yrs (70%)
- What drives young girls to sex work?

Response: i) Truck drivers generous dollar offer  
ii) Poverty  
iii) Lack of Parental care

# Cont.

## Where sex activities take place?

- Hired rooms (lodgings)- 45%
- Rented rooms 30%
- In the trucks 15%
- Under the trucks 10%

## HIV Infection ratio (CSW)?

- Infected 40%
- Not infected 60%

**HIV infections for truckers?-High but not able to determine exact figure**

## Cont.

### Commercial sex workers using Condoms?

- Condom use 45%
- No protection 55%

### Reason for not using condoms?

- Sex without condoms cost high
- Sex with condoms cost low

### Sexual harassment reported?

- Harassment by truckers - 36%
- Harassment by Police - 14%
- Sexual harassment not reported 30%
- Harassment by others 20%

## VCT SERVICES.

### **CSW Visiting the VCT?**

- Regular visit 47%;
- Occasionally 39%
- No visit 16%

### Truckers VCT visit

- Visiting regular # 5
- Rarely visiting # 9
- Not known # 6

## Effectiveness of social service providers

**Respondents (csw & truckers) interviewed reported that;**

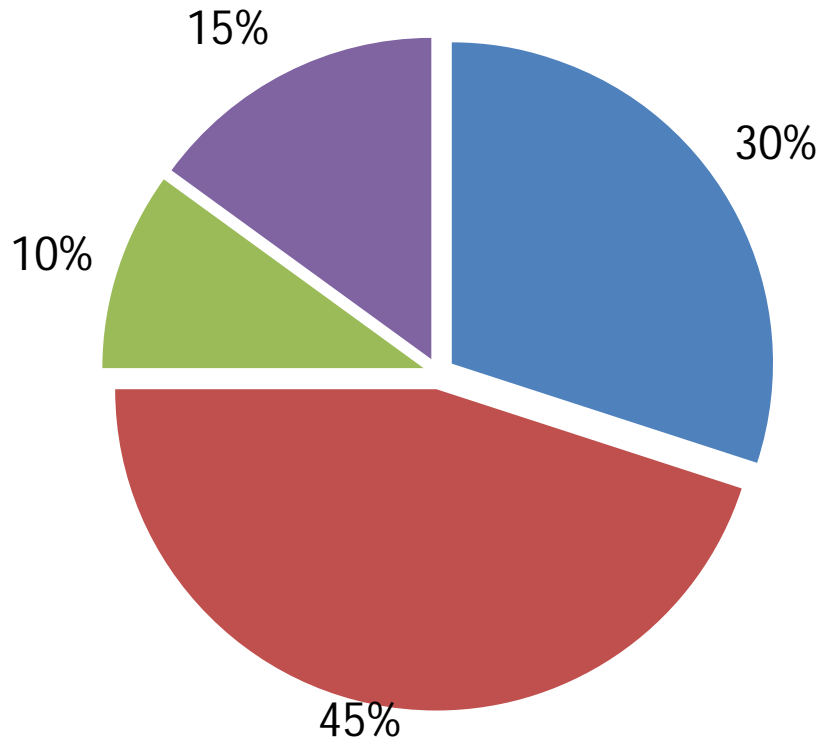
- Services very effective 28%
- Services effective 23%
- Services not effective 41%
- No response 8%

**CSW harassment by social service providers?**

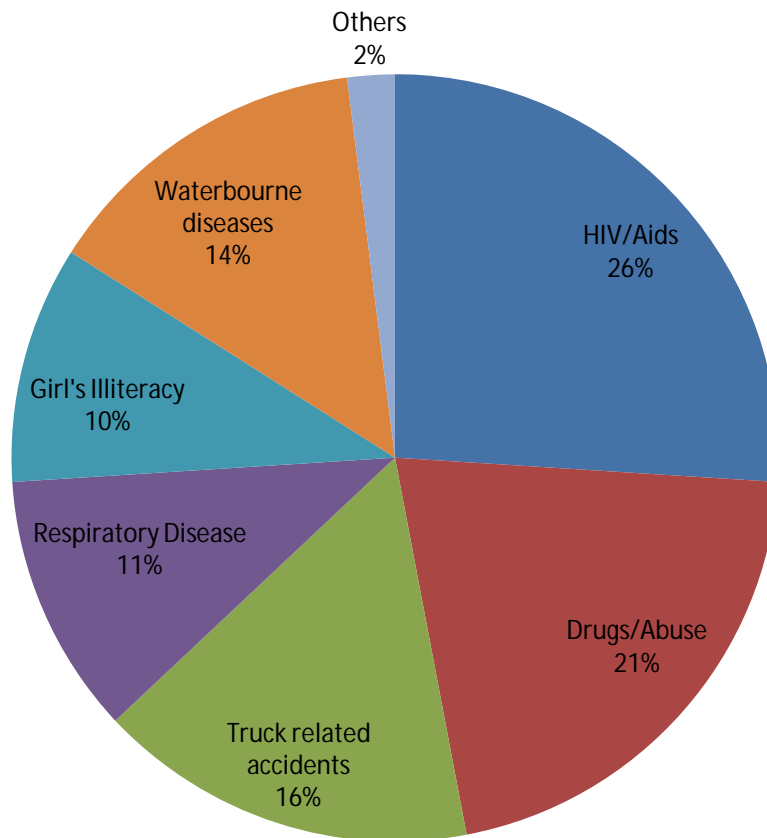
- Very much harassed 49%
- Harassed 30%
- Not harassed 18%
- Do not know 3%

# Accidents by Trucks- Salgaa

Trucks over speed (Red)  
Trucks overturn ( Blue) - Fire  
Trucks Obstruction (Purple)  
Other vehicles (Green)



# Environmental Hazards Ranking





# Cont.

- Total population 7,500

Respiratory Infection rate

- **Adults** Low
- **Children under 18 yrs -** High

High increase rate of the following diseases;

- TB - caused by HIV infections
- Malaria - Poor drainage and dirty /bushy surroundings
- Typhoid - Poor sanitation, dirty water poor waste mgt

**Objective 2: To evaluate the integrated approach to mitigating the environmental hazards resulting from the truckers parking and rest bay in Salgaa.**

## **Conventional Approach**

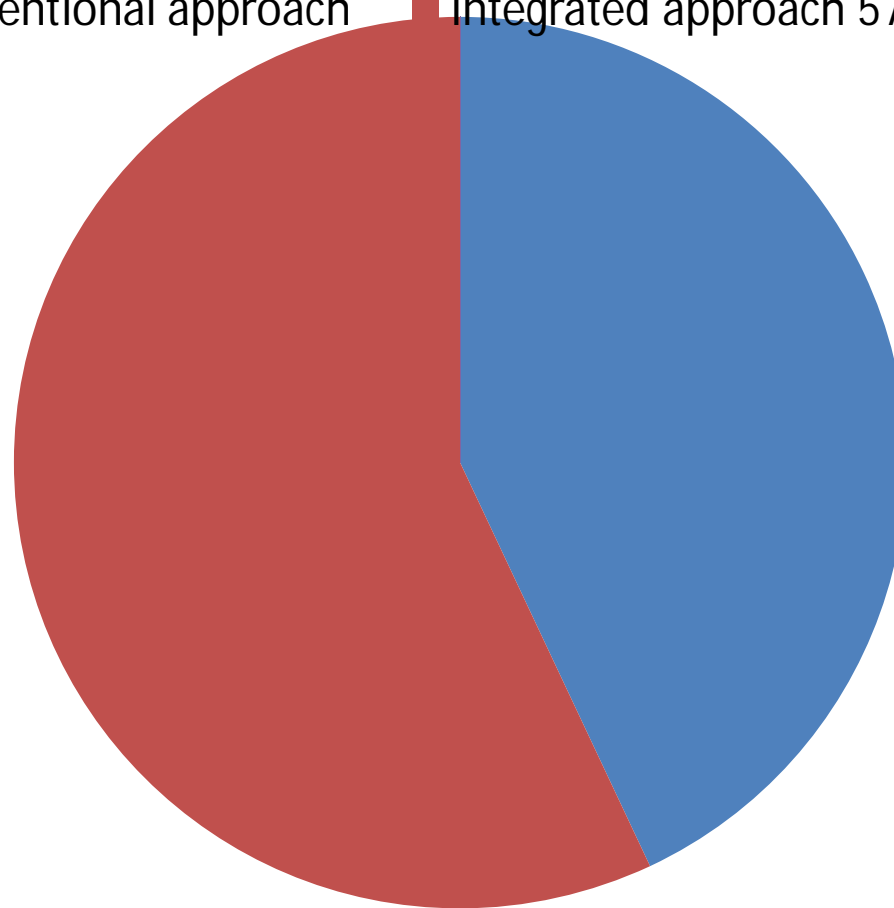
- Method provide prevention and control of STDs and family planning.
- Include provision of ARVS, counselling, supply of protective gears.
- Targets mainly the CSW and other vulnerable members of the community.
- No emotional, spiritual and physical attachment.
- No financial arrangement involvement.

# Cont.

- The clients are sometimes harassed and mistreated by the officers in charge of providing services. About 35% of csw face harassment every week
- Some clients and truckers shy away from visiting the clinics or getting encounter with the service providers.
- The service providers do not deal with sanitation and waste management issues.

# Conventional vs Integrated approach

■ Conventional approach   ■ Integrated approach 57%   ■   ■



# Cont.

## **Social workers and volunteers**

- Three NGOs, working in the Salga.
- Main function is supply of protective gears, family planning and Intro viral drugs and counselling is done.
- **Results**
- The impact is less significant in the control of HIV / Aids spread.
- Approach encourage sex and spread of HIV/Aids.
- Support workers not friendly in their approach and ignore compassionate and love values.

# Integrated Approach

- Integration (faith and conventional) approach or holistic
- The approach is effective in addressing various environmental hazards.
- The approach tries to work closely and support affected groups in the community such as csw, truckers, security, administrators, politicians, traders and settlers in Salgaa.
- Reaching out the community with compassionate love.
- Involving the community in environmental cleaning.
- Creating and educating the community on health and spiritual living
- Resolving conflicts arising from the sex trade business.

# Cont.

- Teaching and training csw on spiritual values
- Organizing csw transformed in to self help groups for economic participation.
- Provide fundings for csw to engage in other income generating activities
- Encourage and support csw transformed to rejoin with their families for social responsibility.

# Cont.

- Over 70% sex workers were positive about integrated approach. They Said that faith ministries were more friendly, practical providing, emotional, psychological, social and economic support – holistic support.
- Socio economic support, income generating activities thro women groups formation and micro financing the groups, education, counselling, giving material and moral support.



# Cont.

- More than 50 sex workers have been rehabilitated and 30 have gone back to their families and are being financially supported by faith ministries.
- Reduction of HIV infections among commercial sex workers who are in the faith based program compared with conventional program.
- The truckers are equipped with awareness and good moral living to reduce the spread of STDs.

## Cont.

- 30% of the csw infected with HIV /Aids are unable to do the business because their health conditions are too bad and have little support from social workers and the government. The faith ministry reach out to this vulnerable group with love and help them gain hope.

# Discussions of Results

- Holistic approach (using faith based and conventional approach) is practical and offer significant solutions to the Salgaa disasters-transformational change.
- Commercial sex workers are able to undergo productive rehab, engage in other income generating activities and re-joining with their families.

# Cont.

- 10% of the total girls drop out have been transformed and taken back to school through integrated approach compared to 2% through conventional one.
- Under financial sponsorship, mature ladies out of school are provided with opportunities to attend various lower level training such as salon, tailoring and articles making and establish their businesses.
- A bout 12 out of 25 ladies have been trained and sponsored by the

# Conclusion

- The truckers parking bay at Salgaa is the source of many environmental hazards.
- The truck parking bay in Salgaa is in poor state and is causing serious environmental disaster.
- Integrated approach is very effective in managing hazards compared to conventional method as the results have indicated.
- HIV/ Aids ranks highest as serious environmental hazard affecting the Salgaa community followed by accidents by trucks.

# Recommendations

1. There is need for the government and other environmental disaster managing bodies to work together with faith based institutions to manage Salgaa environmental hazards
2. The health service support teams in Salgaa should handle sex workers with respect and dignity in order to achieve their goals of preventing and controlling HIV spread and other STDs.
3. The security forces should help the sex workers instead of condemning and harassing them.
4. Law regarding illicit brew and drug abuse should be reinforced to reduce and stop youth and adults from destruction.

# Cont.

5. Girls dropping out of school for financial reasons should be supported to reduce rate of illiteracy in the area.
6. The government needs to act quickly to construct state of the art truck parking bay and rest areas to reduce accidents, pollution and disease infections.
7. The county government should improve sanitation facilities and drainage system.
8. Regular cleaning and creation of awareness be organized to reach out to the community sensitizing them on proper disposal of garbage and waste management system. They should also be educated on their responsibility to care for their lives and to avoid unnecessary behavior leading to health hazards such as HIV infections and spread

# References

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