### LIVING TOGETHER campaign



Kohta IWAHASHI<sup>1,4</sup>, Kei SHIBATA<sup>2</sup>, Yuzuru IKUSHIMA<sup>1</sup>, Yukio CHO<sup>2,4</sup>, Junko ARAKI<sup>2,4</sup>, Takuya KINAMI<sup>2,4</sup>, Mio SATO<sup>2</sup>, Hideki SUNAGAWA<sup>1,4</sup>, Jane KOERNER<sup>3,4</sup>, Satoshi SHIONO<sup>3,4</sup>, Noriyo KANEKO<sup>3</sup>, Seiichi ICHIKAWA<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PLACE Tokyo <sup>2</sup>Rainbow Ring <sup>3</sup>Nagoya City University <sup>4</sup>Japan Foundation for AIDS Prevention



#### LIVING TOGETHER strategy



A gay community level Care and Prevention Campaign

Living Together core message:

Regardless of whether you are of HIV positive, negative, or unknown HIV status, in this town, we are *already* really Living Together.

Something which affects *me/us* 

Sharing of stories of PLWHA, their partners and family

Something which affects *others* 

#### Background: Why LT was began



#### 1 . Stigma in the gay community

The gay community was hesitant to deal with and discuss HIV/AIDS issues openly. This made it difficult for PLWHA to involve visibly and actively in HIV prevention and awareness activities.

2 . Inadequacies of past HIV prevention campaigns:

HIV care and the needs of PLWHA were invisible because of the focus on HIV

prevention





#### LIVING TOGETHER Campaign

In collaboration with PLWHA networks, support service NGO and gay HIV prevention NGOs, we have tried to deliver prevention messages which include the experiences and stories of PWLHA.

#### LIVING TOGETHER campaign Method



To increase the awareness about the reality about living with HIV/AIDS

- DJ and live events: "Living Together Lounge" which use dairies with stories from HIV positive and HIV negative people's thoughts on life, love, sex, family, getting tested for HIV, and living with HIV.
- Community Members (famous people, medical staff, gay bar owners, researchers & others) talk about their impressions of the diaries and stories. People attending the event hear the stories and reader's ideas and feelings. In this way the "Living Together" message is personalized which increases the awareness about the reality about living with HIV/AIDS.







#### LIVING TOGETHER campaign Materials



To raise the visibility of People with HIV/AIDS

#### Materials used for LT readings



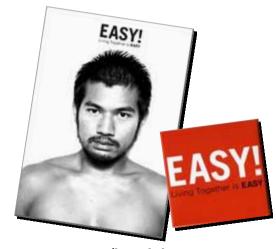
For various age groups and 'types'



Drug & other addictions and HIV



For deaf people (using sign language)

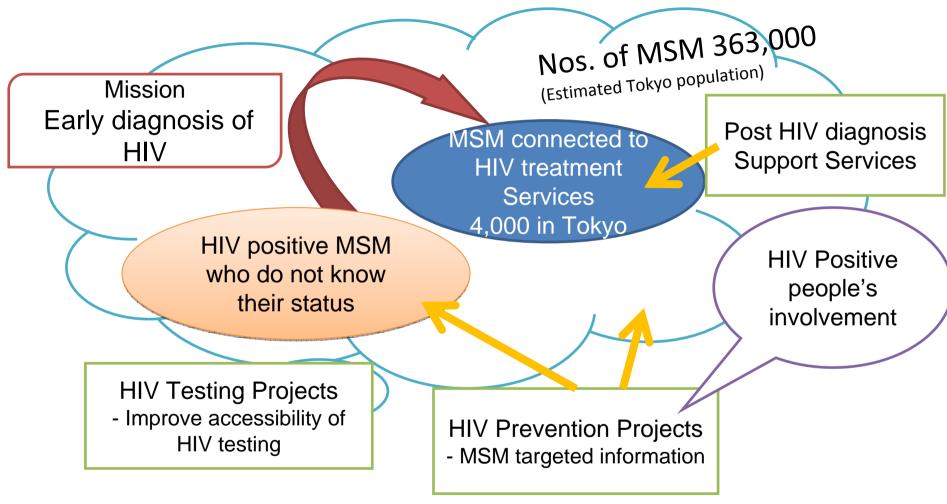


For gay sauna/bathhouse users

#### **TOKYO Team Mission and Structure**



5



#### **TOKYO Team:**

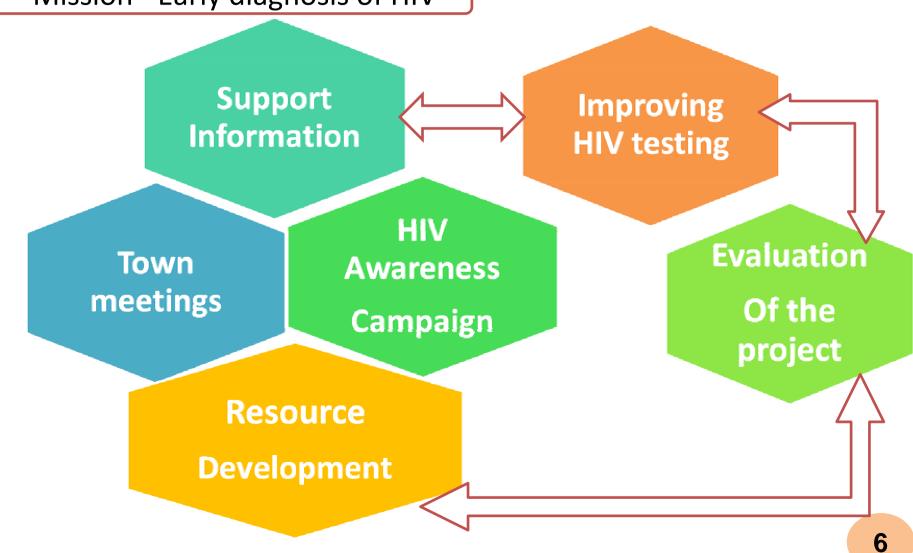
PLACE Tokyo (Support Services), Rainbow Ring (Prevention), JaNP+ (PLWHA Network), Yokohama Cruise (Prevention) and researchers (Research leader Seiichi Ichikawa).



#### TOKYO Team's PROGRAMS 2007-2010

Strategic Research on HIV/AIDS Prevention among MSM in Tokyo

Mission - Early diagnosis of HIV



#### Improving HIV testing



Linking gay community and local governments

# Skills building to increase Gay friendly Health Centers

To improve the accesibility of HIV testing at health centers, training is done with Tokyo, Yokohama and Chiba health center staff.





Role Playing a wide range of scenarios affecting MSM (actors provided by gay NGOs).

#### **Evaluation of Living Together Project**



- Bar customer survey
- ·Cell phone survey
- ·Club event survey

#### **Club event survey**

Design: cross sectional, venue based (gay club party in Tokyo), anonymous, self administered questionnaire

Year: 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009

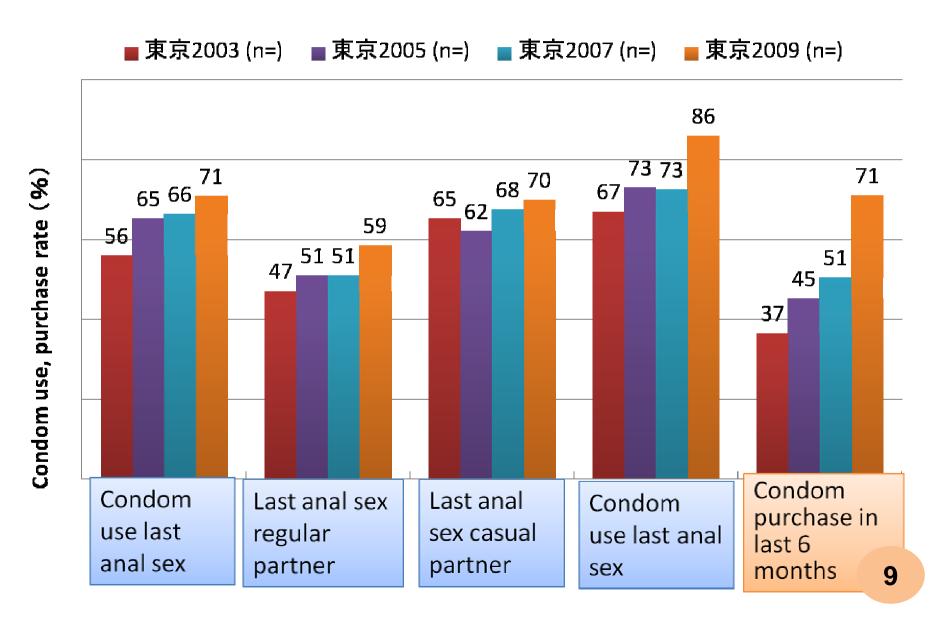
No. of Participants: 500-1000 MSM/year

Questionnaire items: Recognition and expose to Living Together project, HIV testing, condom use and sex behavior, Conversations with friends etc about HIV



#### Club Event Survey 2009

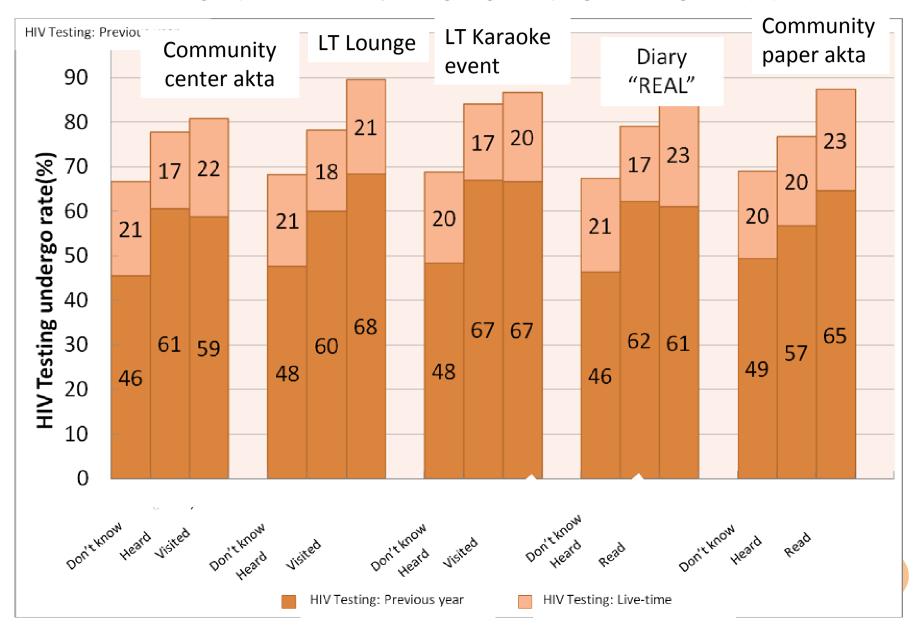
Condom Use at last anal sex and Condom Purchase rate by partner type (%)





#### Club Event Survey 2009

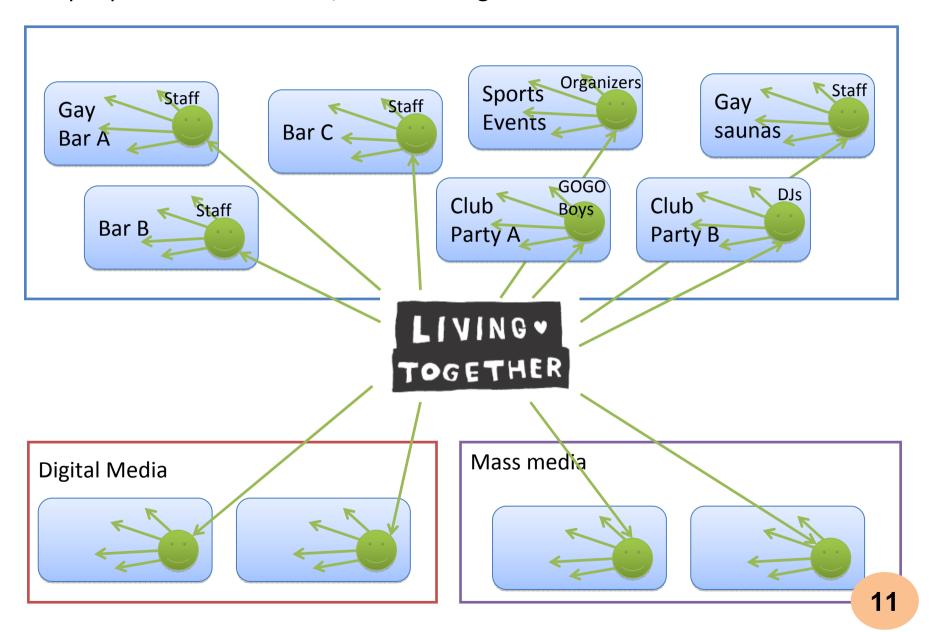
HIV Testing experience rate by Living Together program recognition (%)



## LT message communication methods



· use people & their networks, as well as Digital & Mass Media





# LT Communication methods



Messages to many small groups (using people & networks)



Use real community people to give a 'face' to the campaign



Face to Face Communication: People carry the messages to give a higher trust value to the campaign (Bar outreach & Sauna outreach staff)



#### Digital Media





Use famous gay artist to encourage blogging by community members





Use an easy to understand design to facilitate transference from Web to mobile



Mass Media: Radio









# LIVING TOGETHER Projects

Photograph gallery & Cafe



Diary readings













