

Ombetja Yehinga Organisation

Annual Report 2014

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Acronyms and initialisms

CS	Combined School
CSFN	Civil Society Foundation of Namibia
GBV	gender-based violence
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Society for International Cooperation)
HS	High School
JSS	Junior Secondary School
LGBTI	lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex
MoE	Ministry of Education
MPYC	Multi-Purpose Youth Centre
MYNSSC	Ministry of Youth, National Services, Sport and Culture
NANASO	Namibia Network of AIDS Service Organisations
NAPPA	Namibia Planned Parenthood Association
ODT	OYO Dance Troupe
OYO	Ombetja Yehinga Organisation
PMTCT	prevention of mother-to-child transmission
RACE	Regional HIV/AIDS Committee in Education
SBCC	Social and Behaviour Change Communication
SS	Secondary School
SSBC	Social and Behaviour Change Communication
UK	United Kingdom
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
YG	Youth Group

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1 Message from the OYO Director

2014 was a very interesting year for the Ombetja Yehinga Organisation (OYO) Trust, with the highlight being the participation of the OYO Dance Troupe (ODT) in the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival.

In 2008, when we embarked on our first dance project, *The Namibian Odysseus*, we had no idea that six years later we would be representing Africa in Glasgow. Since this first project, the ODT has gone from strength to strength. Since 2010, we have been able to employ dancers on a fulltime basis. We are the first, and currently the only dance troupe in Namibia with dancers on our payroll, receiving monthly salaries. We felt that being selected to represent Namibia at the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival in Glasgow in July was a great honour, especially once we realised that we were the only troupe from Africa to make the trip.

This was not the only highlight of the year, however. For years we have feared that we were too dependent on the Global Fund, and regularly complained about the lack of timely disbursements. This year was no exception. We had received a disbursement in November 2013, and so started the year with funding. We could produce two issues of the OYO magazine, train and tour the Rundu Youth Group (YG), and finalise the DVD *Panado girl*. In March, however, all Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) activities under the Global Fund came to a standstill. We therefore implemented activities for three months, and then stopped implementing these activities for the next nine months. Despite this setback, OYO could continue with most of its work and implement quality projects.

In 2014, OYO worked with new partners, such as the Civil Society Foundation of Namibia (CSFN)/EU, embarking on an exciting project to promote a culture of zero tolerance towards gender-based violence (GBV) in Omaheke Region, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), performing for both the Day of the Africa Child and World AIDS Day. We also received funding from both the Ministry of Education (MoE) and the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture (MYNSSC) for the first time. We entered into a contract with European partners, the Horizon Foundation and the Prince Claus Foundation (both from the Netherlands) and the Maitri Trust (from Scotland). We continued our work in Ohangwena Region with support from the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Society for International Cooperation) (GIZ). Our faithful United Kingdom (UK) partner, the Valentine Trust, continued supporting us, while the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany supported the production of the fourth episode of *My best interest*.

It is clear that OYO's ability to engage young people meaningfully and create social awareness is now appreciated by both the government and most funding partners. However, 2014 will also be remembered as the year in which OYO's artistic value was recognised. The ODT performed outstandingly in the UK, in particular in Glasgow, where it gained the respect of its peers from around the world. OYO also received two rewards at the 2014 Theatre and Film Awards: for Best Male Actor (Dawie Engelbrecht in *Now that I can talk about it*) and Best Female Actor (Anna Louw in *Stinky boy*). We strive to ensure that our work has both educational value and artistic merit, and this year we proved our worth not only as educationalists, but also as artists.

Once again, none of this would have been possible without the dedication of our staff. Josua Homateni (Production Manager) worked tirelessly to manage all the tours and productions across the country. Ivan “Fly” Mueze (Project Coordinator: Youth Development) and Nyandee Mbarandongo (Production Assistant) continued to inspire youth groups all over the country. Cecilia Petrus (Operations Manager), with support from Franzeska Bohlke and Karolina Katumbo, managed the logistics of all our projects with enthusiasm, at times simultaneously juggling three productions. Our dancers again reached numerous people from all over the country, with total audiences in excess of 39 000 people seeing their work this year. And all the administrative staff in Windhoek ensured the smooth running of all projects – special mention must be made of our new Finance Manager, Freddie Scholtz, who introduced significant improvements in our systems. I am blessed to work with such wonderful people, and enjoyed every moment I spent with them.

I have no doubt that as has been the case in past years, much was learnt in 2014. While 2015 will certainly come with its own challenges, OYO will be better prepared to face these challenges. The ODT is already fully booked till August 2015; we will build on the GBV project launched in Omaheke Region and expand it to both Erongo Region and Karas Region. We will launch our new project on the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) community, and we have a couple of film productions in the pipeline. We continued throughout 2014 to make a difference in the lives of many young people, and we are more motivated than ever to continue doing so in 2015.

Philippe Talavera (PhD)
Director: Ombetja Yehinga Organisation

2 Background information

OYO is a Namibian Welfare Organisation (WO 199) established in December 2002, and officially launched in March 2003. It registered as a trust with the High Court of Namibia in 2009.

The organisation aims at using the arts (both visual and performing) with young people to create social awareness and mitigate the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other social problems such as domestic violence, rape, and the abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

OYO’s vision is to develop a society in which there is broad access to information and the arts. By developing their creative skills, young people enable themselves to make better choices, and thus to become more prosperous, to increase their life expectancy, and to improve the quality of their lives.

The organisation’s values are:

- to be a listening and responsive organisation;
- to lead by example, striving for the highest standards;
- to be inclusive, regardless of race, gender, religion, ability, HIV status or sexual orientation;

- to retain our freedom to give accurate and relevant information, and to do so to the best of our ability;
- to behave in an ethical manner and to fight corruption and dishonesty;
- to support and encourage all people to assert their right to a voice;
- to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to learn;
- to promote creativity and innovation;
- to promote human rights for all;
- to promote excellence and pride in success; and
- to be apolitical, secular and non-judgmental.

OYO's application of a highly participatory ... and learner-centred pedagogy represents a model of excellence and best practice.

Hon. Nangola Mbumba, Minister of Education, September 2009

3 History of the Ombetja Yehinga Organisation

The origins of OYO lie in the Kunene Regional Council. In 2000, teachers requested support for their attempts effectively and efficiently to integrate HIV/AIDS-related information into their school curriculum. In January 2001, the council officially launched a programme called Ombetja Yehinga, as part of the activities of RACOC (the Regional HIV/AIDS Coordinating Committee), Kunene Region. The project was extended for one more year in 2002. By the end of 2002, the programme had been so successful that requests were received to expand it to Erongo Region and Khomas Region. With this end in mind, the Ombetja Yehinga programme registered with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS) as an NGO, and focused on the development of a proper work plan and philosophy, characterised by the slogan: *Using the arts with young people to create social awareness*. With the establishment of a Head Office in Windhoek and two regional offices (in Erongo Region and Kunene Region), 2003 was therefore a milestone in the life of OYO.

Between 2003 and 2013, OYO was responsible for the following productions, publications and events:

- The magazine OYO, young, latest and cool
- Regional tours and annual youth festivals with youth groups
- The plays and DVD series *The hostel monologues* (2006), *Five minutes of pleasure* (2007), *We were young* (2009), *Sex and chocolate*, and *Teddy bear love* (2010)
- The dance shows *The Namibian Odysseus* (2008), *Fallen masks and Modern love* (2009), followed by the creation of the ODT, which has toured nationally and internationally (in South Africa, the UK and Germany); the production of *Should I know?* (2010), *Don't leave me* (2011), *Magda* (2012), *I'm not alone* (in collaboration with Zimbabwean musician Leonard Zakata – 2010), *Stigma* (2012), and *The dark Medea* (2013)

- The DVDs *A crack in the wall* (2008), *One night* (2011), *Now that I can talk about it* (2013) and the mini-series *My best interest* Episode 1: *Left alone*, Episode 2: *Stinky boy* (2012) and Episode 3: *Why can't I be like everybody else?* (2013)
- The fashion theatre extravaganzas *The fashion disease* (2003), *Isolation* (2003), and *Eros and Thanatos* (2005)
- The books *Challenging the Namibian perception of sexuality* (2002), *The hyena's disease* (with children from Kunene Region – 2003), and *Our dreams, our hope* (with Braunfels Agriculture High School (HS) – 2004)
- The CDs *Maturwisa ehinga* (with the Putuavanga AIDS Awareness Club – 2003) and *Vital* (with Namibian artists – 2004)
- The photographic projects “The caring Namibian man” (2005), “Still life” (2007), and “There's no such thing” (2010)
- The condom exhibition *Rubber soul* (2006)

OYO was also involved in various international youth exchange initiatives, culminating in 2008 in a performance at the renowned Peacock Theatre in London.

Awards and recognition include:

- The 2009 AfriComNet Chairman's Award to OYO's founder and Director for “his outstanding contribution in HIV and AIDS prevention and impact mitigation through communication”
- The Special Youth Prize at the Lola Screen Festival, 2011, for OYO's DVDs *Make a move* (2010), *Sex and chocolate* (2011), and *Teddy bear love* (2011)
- The award for Second-Best Youth Film at the Lola Screen Festival 2010, for OYO's DVD *We were young* (produced in late 2009 and released early in 2010)

4 OYO's UK tour and performance at the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival

The ODT was selected to take part in the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival 2014 to celebrate the Commonwealth Games. The Festival, which celebrated the best of youth dance from across the Commonwealth, took place over three days and nights, and brought up to 400 young people and 36 youth dance leaders from 36 groups together. Namibia was one of only eight of the 54 Commonwealth countries that were selected.

The ODT is the only African troupe that made it to the Festival. OYO therefore made use of this opportunity to undertake a UK tour. Five female dancers (Jessica Augustus, from Uis; El-Junita Philander, from Rehoboth; Silvia Plaatjies, from Keetmanshop; Defny Naibas, from Grootfontein; and Maria Andreas, from Omuthiya) and five male dancers (Rodney Isaac, from Keetmanshop; Johannes Magongo, from Outapi; Levi Naseb, from Grootfontein; Anderson Tsoわせb, from Grootfontein; and Osyrin Puteho, from Tsumeb) travelled to the UK with OYO's Director, Philippe Talavera.

4.1 Leeds and Yorkshire Dance

Residency at Yorkshire Dance

The dance troupe arrived in Leeds on 29 June. From Monday 30 June to Friday 4 July the ODT could work with five talented young British dancers. UK-based choreographer Zoei Golding and Philippe Talavera were tasked with creating a new piece with the 15 dancers around the theme of space. The workshop was intense, and delivered the piece *Swim or sink*.

The week was highly successful; feedback from Yorkshire Dance can be obtained from:

<http://www.yorkshiredance.com/news/inspiration-through-cultural-exchange-oyo-leeds>

Performances

On Friday 4 July, OYO presented its piece *Stigma* at Yorkshire Dance, and the Namibian and UK dancers presented *Swim or sink*. This formed part of “Friday firsts”, a series of events organised every first Friday of the month by Yorkshire Dance. Both pieces were very well received. It was also an opportunity to introduce OYO and Namibia, as Philippe Talavera could introduce the work that had been done.

OYO was invited to perform on Saturday 5 July at one of the spectator departure hubs for the Tour de France. Thousands of people gathered to watch the departure of the Tour de France, and later lingered in the park, watching various performances. Unfortunately, the event wasn't well organised. *Swim or sink* could easily have been presented, but OYO was supposed to present *24 years*, which requires a screen to show the DVD. Halfway through the performance, the screen failed, and the piece was consequently meaningless.

Other activities

Yorkshire Dance had organised many other activities, enabling the ODT members to attend performances and meet other young artists. On Tuesday 1 July, the dancers were able to meet with young poets at the Leeds Young Authors Event and present *24 years*. On Wednesday 2 July, they were invited to attend performances by students from the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. On Thursday 3 July, they were privileged to attend the official opening of the Tour de France.

This first stop was a great opportunity to work with other young dancers and a different choreographer. It was also an opportunity to see interesting work. One of the main achievements was that one of the young British dancers enjoyed the experience so much that she decided to join the OYO internship programme. She subsequently came to Namibia for four weeks, starting on 4 August, and strengthened the linkages we had initiated.

4.2 Edinburgh and Dance Base

Edinburgh had been more difficult to organise, but OYO could present its work at Dance Base on Tuesday 8 July. Two pieces were presented: *He loved me* and *Stigma*. The event was attended by over 50 guests, and both pieces were extremely well received. OYO could both present its work and discuss its approach. Special thanks are due to Sophie Younger, who helped organise the event, and without whom it would not have been the success it was.

Following the presentation, the Dance Base Director, Morag Deyes, expressed her gratitude for Dance Base's involvement, and suggested that ODT and Dance Base investigate the prospects for future collaboration, possibly including a bursary for an ODT member to study and work with Dance Base for a year.

This is of course an extremely positive development for the ODT, and we will work towards bringing work to Edinburgh in August 2015.

4.3 Glasgow and the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival

This was the highlight of the tour. The ODT arrived alongside 35 other companies from Australia, New Zealand, India, Singapore, Canada, Malta, Northern Ireland, Wales, England and Scotland on Wednesday 9 July.

Workshops

On 10 and 11 July, the dancers all attended seven workshops. They all took part in six workshops (on Choreography, West End, Aboriginal Traditional Dance, House, Scottish Fusion, and Lindy Hop); in addition, three dancers attended a Samba workshop, four attended a Salsa/Carnival workshop and three attended an African Fusion workshop. It was an exceptional opportunity for the dancers to learn new skills and work alongside young dancers from the Commonwealth.

Performance

On 10 and 11 July, the dancers could see the performances from the other groups. Twelve groups were performing each night, with each group presenting a seven-minute-long piece.

On 12 July the group spent the day at the Tramway Theatre, rehearsing the piece for the evening. They could also watch the pieces of the other 11 groups that would be performing alongside them. In the evening, they performed to a packed audience, presenting *24 years*, which was extremely well received.

In a press statement, OYO's Director Philippe Talavera said, "When we arrived in Glasgow nobody knew about the ODT and very few knew about Namibia. By the time we left, Namibia was on the map, and everybody knew about us. The piece was extremely well received. It was different from any other of the pieces presented at the Festival, as it was political and more 'in-your-face'. It was also physical, with lots of lifts and some fast movements ... It presented an opportunity to share and network. We now have amazing connections in the dance community."

Scottish Ballet

Two dancers and the choreographer could visit the Scottish Ballet and develop links. The Scottish Ballet is interested in supporting projects in the Commonwealth (they presented a piece with Singapore) and showed an interest in learning more about Namibia. One of the dancers was invited for a TV interview, while others took part in a photo shoot to feature in a local newspaper.

4.4 London and the Unicorn Theatre

The ODT dancers travelled to London on Sunday 13 July for the last stop of the tour.

Workshops

On Monday 14 July, the dancers had the exceptional opportunity to take part in a four-hour-long workshop with two talented dancers from the renowned Akram Khan Dance Company. This was a unique opportunity for the dancers to experiment in an extremely intense workshop and learn some phrases from Akram Khan's piece *Desh*, thereby gaining an insight into his choreographic phrasing and style of movement.

Dancers from the Akram Khan dance company were impressed by the energy of the ODT dancers and their willingness to learn more. They discussed the possibility of coming to Namibia with their producer, Farooq, who was confident that such a visit would indeed take place at some point.

Performance

OYO had organised a presentation of its work at the Unicorn Theatre for 15 July. Only the studio was available for the performance. It was a small space, so the presentation was by invitation only. OYO recreated a school hall, and explained its activities in Namibia to the audience. The show was attended by 40 audience members drawn from the donor and artist communities, including the Akram Khan Dance Company, the Hofesh Shechter Dance Company, and the National Theatre.

The ODT dancers performed *Erotica?* and *Stigma*; both pieces were extremely well received. After the presentation, the audience members were invited to stay on for a cocktail, which allowed for important networking to take place. Of note is the commitment made by the Akram Khan Dance Company to send dancers to Namibia to work with the ODT, and a pledge by one of the persons attending to make a donation to OYO.

5 Component 1: Activities with learners

Since the restructuring of OYO in 2012, the focus of this component has shifted to the preparation and facilitation of the OYO magazine.

The magazine *OYO, young, latest and cool* used to appear every second month. Each issue addresses a different topic related to HIV/AIDS or sexual health. Assistants arrange meetings with the schools to deal with the selected topic; they organise debates, create plays or hold discussion sessions, as appropriate. They help learners to gain a thorough understanding of the topic and encourage them to express their views or concerns by making individual contributions in the form of essays, poems, stories or drawings.

Contributions are evaluated first by the assistant, and then again at the OYO Head Office, on the basis of their originality and content; the chosen work, together with expert opinions and other pertinent inputs, is then published. The published magazines are distributed free of charge to schools, and assistants then visit each school twice to ensure their optimal use.¹

¹ Facilitation 1: The new magazine is introduced, and one section is discussed with the learners. Facilitation 2: There is a recap of the first facilitation, and if there are questions, they are answered. The remaining parts of the magazine are discussed with the learners.

2014 was again a frustrating year, and the magazine suffered from the absence of timely disbursements by the Global Fund. A disbursement was received in November 2013, so the year started well, with two magazines being printed and facilitated. At the beginning of the year, as agreed with the Namibia Network of AIDS Service Organisations (NANASO) and the Global Fund, OYO trained eight freelance facilitators (two from Kavango, two from Otjozondjupa, one from Omusati, one from Khomas, one from Hardap and one from Karas).

Towards the end of March, however, all SBCC activities funded by the Global Fund were suspended. Since the second magazine had been printed, OYO continued facilitating it till June, when it stopped. Between April and August, many discussions took place around which Global Fund-supported activities could still be undertaken. This was frustrating, as OYO had just put a lot of effort, energy and resources into training and mentoring the freelance facilitators. It felt that the investment made was not valued by NANASO/ Global Fund. Furthermore, schools in the regions where we had started with the magazine were not satisfied with the fact that we stopped halfway through the year, without consulting them.

After lengthy discussions, it was suggested that OYO should change its approach and:

- focus on the magazine (OYO will have to stop its activities with out-of-school youth groups under the Global Fund grant);
- focus on only four regions: Oshana, Oshana West, Oshana East and Karas (regions with the highest rates of teenage pregnancy);
- make sure the same learners are visited five times with each magazine;
- divide each magazine into five sections or chapters, to allow for five facilitations; and
- focus on GBV in one magazine, and on teenage pregnancy in another.

Issue 57: Money, money

Teenagers seem to be increasingly obsessed with money. Some young girls go for sugar daddies and effectively prostitute themselves. Some boys commit petty crimes such as theft, and end up in trouble. Children shouldn't need money, as their parents should provide for all their needs. The reality, however, is that children want money and items such as cell phones.

The text and layout of the magazine were completed in 2013, and the draft was sent to the National Institute for Educational Development (NIED). It was printed in December 2013 and was ready to be used as the new year commenced. The magazine was well received in schools, with many Life Skills teachers complimenting OYO for addressing the issue of sugar daddies at the beginning of the school year. The facilitators were highly motivated.

Issue 58: HIV and young people

The latest sentinel survey suggests that there has been a decrease in the prevalence of HIV amongst our young people. It is therefore important to assess how far we have come. Do young people go for the test? Can learners living with HIV take their medication freely at school, without risking stigmatisation? Do young people use condoms?

This magazine was originally scheduled for the July/August issue of 2013, but was in fact only published in March 2014. It was used from April to June 2014. Using this magazine was difficult as a result of the decision of the Global Fund to terminate all SBCC activities until further notice. This decision was received just days after the magazine had been printed. It was felt that it would be a huge waste of resources to just keep the magazine in the storeroom. With the money left, OYO managed to distribute it. However it was harder to keep the freelance facilitators motivated.

Issue 59 (to become issue 60): Teenage pregnancy, abortion, adoption and baby dumping

This issue was originally scheduled for distribution in September/October 2013, but this was delayed till 2014. The layout and design were completed, but the magazine suffered from the decision of the Global Fund to freeze all SBCC activities. It was later decided that it would have to be redesigned in order to fit the new Global Fund strategy, and it will be printed after the issue on GBV. It will therefore not be Issue 59, as originally scheduled, but Issue 60.

Issue 60 (to become issue 59): Gender-based violence

With the first magazine, OYO encouraged learners to reflect on GBV. This is nowadays a very important topic, and it needs to be taken seriously. OYO was also embarking on a project dealing with GBV in Omaheke Region, so focusing on the issue at the beginning of the year was deemed to be important; 4 574 contributions were collected. After collection, we had to put the preparation on hold, till further notice. When the new strategy was discussed, it was agreed to start with the magazine GBV (now Issue 59). Contributions were therefore selected. In the absence of a new contract, however, OYO didn't start with the language editing or layout and design.

Issue 61: Stigmatisation and discrimination

With the second magazine, OYO encouraged learners to reflect on stigmatisation and discrimination. Stigmatisation of learners taking their ARVs, of learners with disabilities, and of learners of a different sexuality, are still major problems in our schools. Many learners participated, and 3 114 contributions were collected. Nothing happened after the collection of contributions, since the SBCC activities had been put on hold. When the new Global Fund strategy was agreed upon, it became clear that stigmatisation and discrimination would not be a topic OYO would be working on. The contributions have been filed, and OYO is not sure what to do with them anymore.

Table 1 Magazine preparation and distribution during 2014

Topic	Preparation		Distribution/facilitation	
	Number of schools participating	Number of contributions	Facilitation #1 No. of learners reached	Facilitation #2 No. of learners reached
Money, money			4 485	3 444
HIV and young people			4 154	1 465

Teenage pregnancy				
Gender-based violence	85	4 574		
Stigmatisation and discrimination	56	3 114		
Total	141	7 688	8 639	4 909

Many meetings and discussions followed the decision by Global Fund to freeze all SBCC activities. Eventually, in August the suggestion was made to change the strategy of the magazine as follows:

- Only two magazine to be produced per year (for 2015, one on gender-based violence and one on teenage pregnancy)
- The magazine to be distributed only in Kavango East, Kavango West, Ohangwena and Khomas regions
- In selected schools, each magazine to be facilitated five times (following five identified sub-topics) to the same learners

Ideally, OYO had wanted to then finalise the first magazine on GBV before the end of 2014. However, the new contract took too long to materialise. It was therefore not possible to print the magazine before the end of 2014. This will obviously affect targets in 2015.

Technical features of OYO, young, latest and cool for 2013

Director/editor	P. Talavera
Layout designer	F. Mbedeka
Language editor	W. Hofmeyr
Office assistant/ typist	K. Katumbo
Assistant editor	C. Petrus
Distribution/ Otjiherero language editor	E. Jameka/ E. Aoxamub
Finance coordinator	H. du Plessis/ F. Scholtz
Freelance facilitators	A. Auwenga, C. Goaseb, R. Kaffer, I. Kambengula, G. Kambonde, R. Mokoya, J. Motinga, K. Pessa
Production team (working with out-of-school youths and facilitation during tours)	J. Homateni, I. Mueze, W. Gariseb, N. Mbarandongo
Printed by John Meinert Printing (PTY) Ltd	

6 Component 2: Activities with out-of-school youths

6.1 Overview

A central focus of OYO is the development of activities with out-of-school youth groups. Each year, OYO selects three or four groups to work with more intensively, although it continues to reach additional groups through the OYO magazine. OYO usually organises four tours per year. This is an activity traditionally funded by the Global Fund. 2014 started well, with the training and touring of the Rundu YG. However, all other activities were put on hold when the Global Fund froze all SBCC activities. Unfortunately, despite lengthy negotiations, the Global Fund indicated that they are no longer interested in funding this activity, as it sees little value in the work done with youth groups, for which impact is difficult to measure.

Since April 2014, all activities with out-of-school youths therefore had to be funded through other channels. Our thanks are due to GIZ and CSFN/EU, as a result of whose support we could support the Eenhana YG and the Gobabis YG.

6.2 Rundu Youth Group

OYO first worked with the Rundu YG at the beginning of 2013. In 2013, the group took part in a regional tour and was also invited to perform at OYO's tenth anniversary celebrations. The group was interested in continuing to receive support from OYO. In 2014, the group rehearsed for three weeks, from 14 to 31 January. The group prepared a performance focusing on teenage pregnancy, also with information regarding mother-to-child HIV transmission. The group had between 18 and 22 members. However, while the core of the group was reliable and committed, many members came and went. Rehearsals were therefore at times not easy.

The group then visited Hardap Region from 2 to 8 February 2014. The tour ran smoothly. Beside performing for schools and communities, the group also performed for the Hardap Correctional Facility. Many of the young people were anxious going to perform in a jail. Showing young people the reality of life in jail is part of OYO's strategy for discouraging them from engaging in criminal activities. The group members behaved very well, and were easy to manage. All the members enjoyed the tour and the message was well received by all the audiences.

It is fair that (in the drama) the sugar daddy was sentenced to 15 years in jail because a fully grown person must not have sex with someone under the age of 16, or worse, 14.

Cornalito, 14-year-old male learner, Anna Maasdorp CS

(In the drama) the man hangs himself after he found out that he was HIV-positive, and no one cares about him ... It happens in our community.

Rebekka and Guannia, learners, Mariental HS

A kid from Mariental High School came to us and she said that everything that we did, especially the drama, that's what life is to her, so we gave her a number to call (Lifeline/Childline). [It shows that] all the kids understood, and that they got the message clearly.

Toze Bejami, Rundu Catalyst YG

And please don't change anything because OYO is just great, great! OYO is the main organisation that changes lives in Namibia. Keep up the good work.

Shanika Thomas, Rundu Catalyst YG

After the tour, OYO remained in contact with the group. This group and their tour were funded by the Global Fund, so when activities put on hold, OYO could no longer support the group. We tried to explain the situation to the members, and thanks to the Peace Corp volunteer supporting them, we could establish that they were still going strong. Towards the end of the year, the group could apply for support from Lifeline/Childline for work on GBV, using OYO as a referee. We are glad their request for support was approved. The group can therefore continue with activities.

6.3 Eenhana Youth Group

In 2013, with GIZ funding, OYO started to support the Eenhana Multi-Purpose Youth Centre (MPYC). Lessons were learnt, and a report was prepared. This informed the formulation of a strategy for 2014. OYO therefore entered into a second agreement with GIZ to support the Eenhana MPYC and continue helping them to create a sustainable Eenhana YG.

6.3.1 Planning workshop

One of the lessons learnt in 2013 was that the youth members ought to have been involved in the planning process. This was in part because at the time, there was no group. However, since by now there was a group, the suggestion was made to start the year with a strategic planning workshop with the YG members.

OYO's Director, Philippe Talavera, and Youth Facilitator, Nyandee Mbaradongo, facilitated the workshop. Nyandee travelled to Eenhana on 2 February, while Philippe travelled to Eenhana on 3 February. The strategic planning with the youth ran from 3 to 5 February. The youth involved went through a series of exercises. At various points, Nicco Aipumbu, the Youth Officer, came to share the Ministry plan and listen to the group members. By the end of the three days, a programme had been agreed upon and a report had been prepared. The size of the group was a limitation, however, with only six to eight young people attending the workshop.

6.3.2 Youth workshops – first series

Following the strategic planning workshop, and as per the agreement with GIZ, five one-week workshops were organised. However, in line with the lessons learnt in 2013 and the outcomes of the strategic planning workshop, the workshops had different objectives from the ones held in 2013. Whereas in 2013 the workshops focused mainly on trying to get a performance ready, this year the workshops focused on:

- actively recruiting young people to join the YG;
- creating a performance on teenage pregnancy to tour in schools; and
- learning facts about HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health.

During the strategic planning workshop, various activities had been suggested to attract young people to join the YG:

- An event in town to attract people: this was organised for 21 February in the centre of town, with support from the MoE, which provided its sound system. OYO's Youth Facilitators Nyandee Mbarandongo and Winslow Gariseb and the youth members present organised activities in town to introduce the group to the community and encourage young people to join.
- A car wash in town: this could not be held, as the Youth Centre failed to get the authorisation from the municipality to use water.
- A cleaning campaign: this could not be held due to the heavy rains.
- Advertising at Namcol and Vocational Training Centres: YG members went with OYO's facilitators to both Namcol and the Vocational Training Centre and presented their programme, explaining to young people that they could join the initiative, and that provision would be made for them to still attend their courses.

In parallel, Nicco Aipumbu organised for young people from a nearby village to be involved. The MPYC provided them with free transport to Eenhana once a week and free accommodation at the centre. Despite meals being an obstacle, as neither OYO nor the MPYC could provide breakfast or dinner, some youths did join.

Although two events could not take place, thanks to the transport provided for young people from the nearby village, the group grew from about 8 members to about 16 members. All the members were committed and hard-working, and shared a common vision. (During the strategic planning workshop, a vision had been developed, and this helped newcomers to understand what could be expected of them.)

Five weeks of workshops were organised: from 17 to 21 February; 24 to 28 February; 3 to 7 March; 17 to 20 March; and 24 to 28 March. All workshop facilitation was led by Nyandee Mbarandongo, with assistance from Winslow Gariseb. On 23 and 24 March, the group also benefited from a visit of OYO's Director, Philippe Talavera.

During the workshops, a performance on teenage pregnancy was devised. This included dance, drama and songs; all with a strong message. It was tested during the fourth week with members of the Eenhana MPYC. By 28 March, the performance was ready to tour in schools in the region.

Finally, weekly classes were organised on specific topics. On Mondays, a pre-class quiz would be distributed to the youths. On either Wednesday or Thursday, a class would be organised; on Fridays, a post-class quiz would be distributed to the youths, to assess the knowledge they had gained. Topics covered were HIV Transmission and Prevention (week 1); HIV Testing and Treatment (week 2); STIs (week 3); Sexual and Reproductive Health (week 4); and TB and Other Opportunistic Infections (week 5). All quizzes have been collected, and will be analysed as part of the M&E component of this project.

6.3.3 Organisation of the tour

In collaboration with the MoE, it was agreed that schools will be visited from 30 March to 5 April. In collaboration with the Regional HIV/AIDS Committee for Education (RACE), a programme was agreed upon. Schools were selected on the basis of the number of teenage pregnancies they had experienced in 2013 (the 12 schools with the highest teenage pregnancy rates were selected). Some of the schools were very remote,

and could not be accessed without 4x4 vehicles. RACE recommended leaving them out, as particularly during the rainy season, access would be too challenging.

Prior to the tour, the schools were invited to attend a workshop on 7 March with OYO Youth Facilitator Nyandee Mbarandongo. The aim of the workshop was to sensitise the schools regarding the issue of teenage pregnancy, and encourage them to make the best of the visit by the youth group. In particular, it was recommended that the schools organise activities from 7 March till the visit by the youth group, in order to implement a real campaign at school level. Six schools attended the workshop; there was some confusion, however, and some schools that were not part of the programme came to attend. The schools attending found the workshop interesting, and committed themselves to implementing activities at school level prior to the visit of the youth group.

The tour took place from 30 March to 5 April, and reached 8 047 people, of which 7 728 were learners and young people.

Some schools shared their concerns with the performers and OYO staff. The principal at Eenhana Secondary School explained that most learners come from poor families from the nearby villages. They are dropped in Eenhana with no food and no money, and they stay in shacks for N\$100 per month, which is all their parents can afford. This makes the girls very vulnerable to sugar daddies. At the end of the performance, the principal asked girls to stand up and swear that they would not fall pregnant, but would rather come to her to discuss their problems.

In Omungholyo CS, the principal explained that learners are mostly impregnated by police officers. The school is close to Angola, and some learners come from that country. Police officers have sex with girls in exchange for money (around N\$500 per month) and/or for letting them pass the border, sometimes illegally. Such learners usually stay with their grandparents, and they don't mind if their grandchildren go out with older men, as they usually bring money and food back home.

Most schools were concerned at the worsening rate of teenage pregnancy:

- In Omungholyo CS, there were 12 pregnancies in 2008, seven in 2009, five in 2010, three in 2011, three in 2012 (but data for one term are missing) and eight in 2013. While the school thought they were making progress (in particular in 2010), they fear that the situation is once again getting out of hand.
- In Etomba CS, there was one pregnancy in 2011, two in 2012, and four in 2013; during the first term of 2014, four girls had already fallen pregnant. The school is extremely worried about the trend, and asked for support from the MoE.
- In Onanghulo CS, 10 girls fell pregnant in 2013.

Most schools are trying to implement programmes to prevent teenage pregnancy. The only exception was Oshikango CS, where no programme was in place. The Life Skills teacher herself was on maternity leave, and nobody was taking over her functions. Teachers didn't attend the performance, and showed no interest in the topic.

The RACE Coordinator attended all the performances and visited the schools with the team, providing important support and encouraging schools to take the issue of teenage pregnancy seriously. The MoE further supported OYO with a vehicle from day three, in particular to make it possible to reach the more remote schools.

The main challenge experienced was the remoteness of some schools. Schools were selected because of their high level of teenage pregnancy. However some were really difficult to reach, and the team arrived late in Ohahenge CS and Oshawapala CS. This meant that there was less time for facilitation in those schools.

6.3.4 Evaluation of the first part of the project

At the time of the tour, the group comprised 14 motivated members, but after six weeks, seven had left for work or personal reasons, and only nine remained. Of the nine members, five were away on 22 May, despite the group having been informed of the visit (one was ill, and four were travelling out of town for personal reasons). Three new members had joined. Therefore seven members attended the first evaluation day; they were joined by an eighth on day two.

The purpose of the two days evaluation was to reflect on the first phase of the project, plan the second phase, and establish their direction for the “post-OYO” period.

The process was made difficult because:

- only few members were present, and three of these were new, and had not played any part of the first phase of the project; and
- the MPYC had not finalised its yearly programme, so that it was difficult to find out where the group stood, and when they could organise activities so as not to clash with other programmes.

We therefore changed our strategy for the second day, and used most of the day to try and re-motivate the group. By the end of the second day, a programme had been planned, and they were excited again and couldn't wait to start.

6.3.5 Youth workshops – second series

OYO rehearsals took place from 2 to 6 June, 7 to 11 July, and 14 to 18 July, with the tour to be organised by the ministry from 19 July. The second topic selected was alcohol and drug abuse, because alcohol abuse, in particular, is a major problem in the region, and is often associated with teenage pregnancies. It was a more challenging topic; the number of youths involved in the first week was as low as four (on the first day), but thereafter rose to around 13 or 14. The group grew again after the first workshop, and in the third week, there were consistently 20 members.

Food remains a challenge for the group. Some members are still coming in from outside Eenhana, and are accommodated at the youth centre. No dinner or breakfast is provided for them, however, as OYO only provides lunch. It was originally agreed that breakfast and dinner would be provided by GIZ or by money the group raised. For the first few days the GIZ contact person was not in Eenhana and couldn't purchase the food. The group tried to use their own money, but this was problematical. Luckily, the group continued to be motivated.

Despite the fact that some members have been part of the group for a long time, due to the substantial turnover, they find it hard to train the new members. Creating a new show in three weeks was extremely challenging. The group rehearsed on Saturday to be able to catch up. During the three weeks of rehearsals, the group also performed, on 16

July at the launch of the Rural Health Integrated Network, and on 18 July at the stadium for World Population Day. The group is starting to make a name for itself in town, and this is a very positive development.

6.3.6 Second tour

OYO was not in charge of organising the tour, and so cannot report on it. It only received feedback from the youth group mentioning that the tour started but was interrupted, and resumed in September. The results achieved were good, however, and the tour was deemed to have been successful.

6.3.7 Youth workshops – third series

OYO's involvement was supposed to end in July, but because during the first series of workshops fewer youths had attended, some savings had been made. The suggestion was made to use the savings to organise two further workshops.

Prior to the workshops, OYO's Director and the GIZ Programme Manager for the Ohangwena project met in Windhoek to discuss issues that should be addressed. The youths were supposed to start with a new show, so the timing was good to support them with creative ideas. Furthermore, they had some issues with the youth centre that required attention. It was felt that these final workshops could help the group to improve on their relationship with the youth centre.

Nyandee Mbarandongo, who has developed positive bonds with the group, travelled on 21 September and organised workshops from 22 to 27 September, and from 29 September to 3 October. He was disappointed by the attendance of only between 10 and 14 people in week one. This improved in the second week, however, with 14 to 18 people attending.

The new show was on sexual and reproductive health, in particular on communication with parents and adults. The youths worked hard to develop a new show, and the result was satisfactory. They presented their new show to the MYNSSC, MoE and GIZ on 2 October, and all were happy with the result. Members of the Namibia Planned Parenthood Association (NAPPA) were also present, and expressed an interest in using it.

Every day, at least an hour was allocated to discussing behaviour and attitudes. The first few days were difficult, as youth members were reluctant to discuss issues, fearing that they might come across as being arrogant. As the days went by, however, the group started to progress, and at the end of the two weeks they collectively wrote an apology to the Acting Head of the centre, expressing the hope that they would be able to work more closely with the centre in the future.

On 30 September, the group performed for Condom Day at Etomba Combined School (CS). They also did a condom demonstration, and distributed 500 condoms to community members who came to watch the show. On 1 October, two of the group members went to present the group and their work to the MoE, who appreciated it. This is strengthening links the group already has with the MoE.

Other achievements during the week included the opening of a bank account for the group and the drafting of a proposal to NAPPA for the recording of the show. The group also decided to change its name from Eenhana Youth Club to Eenhana Vibrant, in order

to start afresh. “I wish I had a few more days with the group”, concluded Nyandee Mbarandongo. “I am very proud of the group and I hope they will continue like that ... The group has big ideas. I wish I could have stayed one more week to help them with the ideas.”

Since many photos and short clips were also gathered throughout the process, the decision was also made to create a short YouTube link to summarise the work done and help promote the group. The link is

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZG2_gn3lJj4&feature=youtu.be

6.3.8 Conclusion

Planned activities have in the main been successfully executed. The strategic planning workshop gave the youth a sense of ownership, and it is evident that the group is stronger and more committed than it was in 2013. The shows prepared are relevant and of good quality, and can easily be performed in schools and communities.

The group is still fragile, however, and its sustainability is not yet assured. The fact that some members are not from Eenhana still makes it difficult to manage. The group has the support of both OYO and GIZ. Hopefully, the links they have developed with the MYNSSC and MoE and the good results obtained thus far will ensure that support will be strengthened.

6.4 Gobabis Youth Group

Please refer to Section 7 (Building community capacity to support children’s and women’s rights in rural Omaheke Region).

6.5 Other youth groups

At the end of the year, four youth groups were visited so that groups could be selected to take part in projects planned for 2015:

- Since OYO will have a project in Karas Region, we visited Keetmanshoop and Lüderitz from 20 to 31 October. Even though most members in Keetmanshoop are new, the Dream Team itself serves as a strong foundation. As in the past, the group learnt fast and was hard working, showing discipline, commitment and the ability to work as a team. In Lüderitz, however, the group was not well organised, and only nine members turned up. They enjoyed the workshop, but much more would need to be done with them to ensure that they could take part in a project. Ivan “Fly” Mueze, Youth Coordinator, went back to Keetmanshoop from 17 to 21 November to help the group prepare for World AIDS Day.
- Since OYO will have a project in Erongo Region, we visited Swakopmund and Karibib from 3 to 14 November. In Swakopmund, an announcement had been made by the MYNSSC informing young people about the workshop. On the Monday, however, only six arrived. Throughout the week it remained a small group, with seven members. However, these members were motivated and hard working. OYO had worked in Karibib before. This year, however, the group didn’t work at all. Most young people who came were not interested in drama and dance, and very little could be achieved.

Table 2 Audiences for the youth group tours

Tour	# of children / learners / youths		# of adults		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Rundu YG to Hardap Region	1 448	1 341	175	240	3 204
Eenhana YG to Ohangwena Region	4 322	3 406	134	185	8 047
Gobabis YG to Omaheke Region – Tour 1	2 408	2 365	151	105	5 029
Gobabis YG to Omaheke Region – Tour 2	1 943	2 078	150	277	4 448
Total	10 121	9 190	610	807	20 728

A total of 20 728 people were reached through the four tours in 2014 (cf. 23 259 in 2013 from four tours, and 33 349 in 2012 from six tours). Despite the same number of tours being organised as in 2013, audience numbers were down. In particular the first tour attracted smaller audiences than expected. Attention will have to be given to this trend, to try and reverse it in 2015.

Technical features of the regional shows

Producer	P. Talavera
Project Coordinator: Youth Development and Director	I. Mueze
Project Coordinator: OYO Productions	J. Homateni
Logistics	C. Petrus
Finance Coordinators	H. du Plessis, F. Scholtz
Production Assistants and Co-directors	N. Mbarandongo, W. Gariseb

7 Building community capacity to support children’s and women’s rights in rural Omaheke Region

This year, OYO embarked on a very interesting project thanks to funding from CSFN, a vehicle for EU funding in Namibia.

The project was a comprehensive package of activities in Omaheke Region. The first activity was to organise five weeks of training workshops for the Gobabis YG. The workshops were organised in collaboration with the MYNSSC and the Gobabis town council. The Town council also allocated the Community Hall free of charge for rehearsals (an in-kind contribution to the project, for which we are most grateful).

The workshops took place between 6 May and 20 June. The group decided to call itself “The fireworks”.

Workshop	Average no. of participants	Achieved
6 – 10 May	16	Getting to know each other; creating two songs and a dance, agreeing on the synopsis for the drama. The group received training on HIV transmission and prevention and a facilitation on the OYO magazine on “Gender”.
12-16 May	22	A third song and a second dance were created. The drama was scripted and the first part was staged. The group also received training on HIV testing and treatment.
26 – 30 May	14	A fourth song was created, the two dances were polished, and the second part of the drama was staged. The group further received training on gender equality.
09 – 13 June	19	The show was finalised – songs and dances were polished and the final part of the drama was staged. Further talks about gender equality were organised.
16-20 June	18	The show was polished and work was done to ensure that the group was ready for its tour. The group also benefited from training on GBV. The Mayor of Gobabis saw the show and congratulated the team and all involved for the initiative.

The third workshop was difficult to organise, as there was a public holiday in the middle of the week. Although participants had initially agreed on the dates, the turnout that week was weaker than expected.

The group was hard-working and motivated, and they prepared an interesting show: A man refuses to accept that women could become managers. When his wife gets a promotion, he forces her to resign. At his work, he refuses to consider a woman for a new position. His attitude becomes known, and thanks to the intervention of a social worker and a friend, he gets to understand his errors and becomes a changed man.

By the end of the five weeks, the performance on gender equality was ready, and the group was ready to tour within its own region. The tour took place from 21 to 27 June 2014. There were 16 performances, witnessed by 4 773 young people and 256 adults. All shows were followed by a facilitated discussion.

The community show at the Epako Community Hall was attended by some leading figures in the town, including the Town Counsellor and the Youth Centre Head. The objective was to present the group to the local stakeholders. The aim going forward is to ensure that the group is sustainable, and that key stakeholders in the community know of the group and can make use of it to continue creating social awareness. We consider their presence at the show to be an indicator of success.

Meanwhile, the ODT created a performance that included three pieces:

- *He loved me* tells the story of a young couple who have just had a child. The man loses his job and doesn't manage to find another job. He becomes increasingly frustrated and doesn't know how to manage his anger. Ultimately, he becomes violent towards his partner and their child.
- *Take my hand* tells the story of an abusive father. As a result of his actions, the child is withdrawn at school. One day, another learner notices that something is wrong with her and reports the matter to the teacher, who informs the social worker, who involves the police. The abusive father is arrested and the mother and child can come back to a better life.
- *Don't leave me* deals with intimate partner killing (sometimes erroneously referred to as "passion" killing). It shows how jealousy can get out of hand and lead to crime.

All pieces were tested with various audiences before being taken on tour. In particular, *He loved me* was presented at the GBV Orange Day event organised by the United Nations, and was also presented at Lifeline/Childline to various counsellors and members of staff, who could then advise the team and dancers on minor adjustments, and train the OYO facilitators on how best to use the piece.

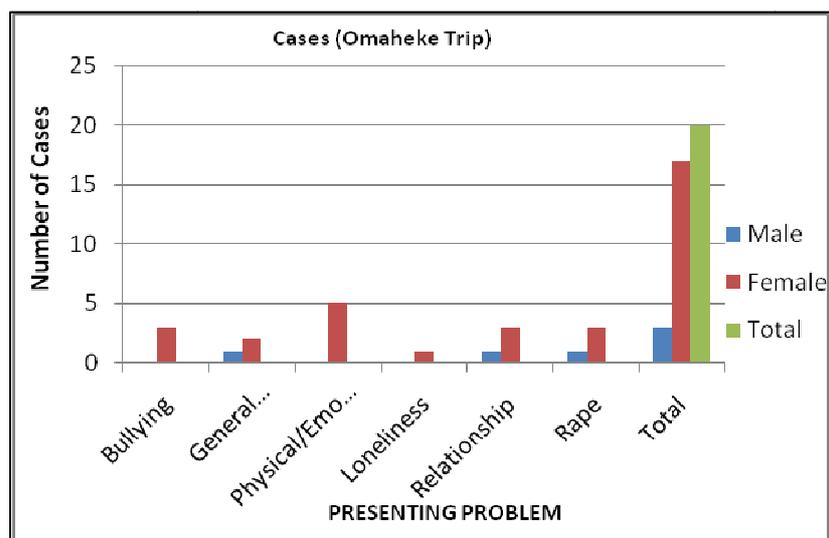
The dancers then went on tour from 19 to 25 July. They could only visit 11 schools, as Izak Buys Secondary School (SS) in Leonardville refused to accommodate the performance, because learners were starting with their tests. Furthermore, unlike with the tour of the youth group, the community show in the Canane area of Gobabis could not be arranged. A total of 4 489 young people and 196 adults benefited from the activity. All shows were followed by facilitated discussions.

After all performances (ODT and DVD shows), referral systems in the region were explained to learners. In particular, the role of the Woman and Child Protection Unit was presented.

OYO even went a step further and collaborated with Lifeline/Childline on this project. A trained counsellor from Lifeline/Childline, Dina Petrus, travelled with the dancers and attended all the performances. She made herself available to give advice or conduct one-on-one counselling sessions. Since the show dealt with the sensitive issue of GBV (and some learners are themselves victims of GBV), it was felt to be important to travel with a counsellor and give learners a chance to seek immediate support, if needed.

Before every performance, information was shared with the entire school about the 116 line and other services offered by Lifeline/Childline, and learners were given the opportunity to talk to the counsellor and ask questions during or after the performance.

Twenty learners received face-to-face counselling during this trip, and arrangements were made for telephonic follow-ups where needed. The issues dealt with included rape, physical and emotional abuse, bullying and relationship problems.



Thereafter, the Gobabis YG started to prepare a second show. Four additional weeks of workshops were arranged, from 11 to 22 August, from 1 to 5 September, and finally from 22 to 26 September. The second week was difficult, as many people didn't attend. By the end of the third week, however, a performance was ready.

Workshop	Average no. of participants	Achieved
11 – 15 August	18	Two songs, one dance and the first five parts of the drama were created. Participants were committed and the week ran smoothly.
18 – 22 August 14	20	One dance was created on condom use at the request of the Municipality (to be used for their event on Condom Day). The songs and the dance and drama were polished. While the number of participants was higher, commitment was less obvious, with many coming and going.
1 – 5 September 14	16	This week was used mainly to polish the show. However, six new members joined during the week, and had to be trained intensively to enable them to catch up with the rest of the group.
22 – 26 September 14	18	This was a difficult week. The group was also involved in a project with the National Theatre of Namibia, so we had to share time. The Municipality requested that the group prepare a different 10-minute show for one of their events, but in the end it was not possible to do so. The group worked hard to try and finalise the performance for the tour.

The second show started where the first show ended. This was a way to catch learners' attention immediately, as they already knew the characters and could therefore relate to them.

By the end of the three weeks, the performance was ready and the group could tour its own region. The tour took place from 27 September to 3 October; 14 performances were given, benefitting 4 121 young people and 427 adults. All shows were followed by a facilitated discussion.

The show was actually difficult to manage. OYO needs two vehicles for such projects: OYO's own Toyota Quantum and a rented one. On 1 October after the performance at Heuva Junior Secondary School (JSS), the rented Quantum was involved in an accident. None of the youths were seriously injured, but they were shaken, and didn't perform the following day. The driver of the vehicle broke his leg and was transferred from the clinic to hospital back in Windhoek, where sadly he passed away. This was a shock for all the youths and staff involved. We would like to take this opportunity to send our heartfelt condolences to Mr Akon's family.

In parallel, various OYO DVDs were facilitated during this project (see Section 8 (Component 4: DVD productions and shows)).

In order to ensure a sense of ownership on the part of schools, in September they were provided with poster boards, paints and brushes. The rules for the competitions were clearly explained: schools had to come up with two posters dealing with GBV and gender equality, explaining to viewers what referral mechanisms were available in their areas. From 4 to 7 October, the Production Manager visited all schools involved to take pictures of the posters.

A panel comprising four OYO staff assessed the posters. The quality of six of the posters was very high. It was suggested to then add a component to the competition and encourage schools to sign a commitment to end GBV. Schools were given two weeks to collect the forms. The production manager again travelled to the region from 27 to 29 October to collect the forms.

Examples of pledges from learners include:

*I will not abuse the opposite sex verbally or physically
I will not assault or harass females
I will respect other people's bodies*

Operi Kaseraera, Wennie du Plessis SS, Grade 9c

*I promise myself that I won't be involved in any abusive relationship
I promise not to be abusive towards my partner and to have a healthy relationship
I promise not to be aggressive but to be a calm person and not to do bad to another*

Soweria Hango, from Wennie du Plessis SS, Grade 11

*I will not deny others their gender rights
I will respect the opposite sex
I will not abuse the opposite sex*

Marike Aletta Gouws, Ben van der Walt PS, Grade 7

*I will stand up for myself and will not be afraid
I will report any case of violence to the police, we should all be treated equally
Even if you are a man do not be afraid to stand up for yourself*

Jozika Hoveka, Izak Buys JSS, Grade 9

I promise that I will not be ruled by my husband

I promise to be an independent woman who will not depend on a man

I promise to be a woman of my word

Tjiveenela Makari, Wennie du Plessis SS, Grade 11

I will never beat my wife or treat her unfairly

I will be 50/50 with my wife

I will help my wife with house chores

Piet Jonker, Izack Buys JSS, Grade 9

Between 3 and 5 November, the winners were announced:

- First place: Izak Buys JSS
- Second place: Gustav Kandji SS
- Third place: Nossobville PS

On 11 November, OYO's Operation Manager travelled to Leonardville to hand over the first OYO Social Engagement Trophy to Izak Buys JSS. It was too late to advertise the event in the Namibian Youth Paper, but we hope to be able to do so at the beginning of 2015.

Thanks to careful management of the funds, some savings had been made. Since it had not been possible to close off the tour properly (due to the accident), one more workshop was held, from 1 to 5 December, to evaluate the tour. During the workshop, the young people were encouraged to reflect on what they had achieved during the year, and were asked to complete the post-evaluation questionnaire (the same as the one given to the schools), and they were encouraged to plan for 2015. They also worked on a new dance on HIV, since it was World AIDS Day. By the end of the week, the group had a plan in place.

At the beginning of the project, learners were asked to fill in a pre-quiz questionnaire to assess their knowledge, attitudes and behaviour. Fifteen learners from each of 12 schools answered the questionnaire, and all 180 questionnaires were collected. Only 11 schools (150 learners) took part in the post-quiz questionnaire at the end of the year. The pre- and post-quiz questionnaires were identical, allowing us to assess knowledge gained and changes in attitude.

The final evaluation will include a comparison of results obtained from the pre- and post-quiz questionnaires for learners, and the post-quiz questionnaires given to the youth group. The results will be available early in 2015.

This project has been very successful. OYO particularly enjoyed working on a proper package for the youth group and schools of the regions. Through a series of activities, it was possible to have in-depth interaction with the youth group, and to constantly reinforce the message for the learners. Learners benefited from two shows of the Gobabis YG and one show of the ODT, took part in a poster painting competition, and made pledges through the commitment forms. This was therefore a rounded package offered to the schools involved, and is likely to have a lasting impact.

Building on the success of this project, the following will take place in 2015:

- CSFN/EU agreed to support a similar project in Erongo Region. It will once again be a full package with performances by a local youth group and the ODT, a poster competition, and pledges made by the learners.
- The Horizon Foundation agreed to support a similar project in Karas Region. Due to funding constraints, it will only include performances by a local youth group and the ODT, and pledges by the learners (i.e. no poster competition).
- Lifeline/Childline agreed to tour the show of the ODT to Hardap Region.

The tools developed in 2014 will therefore inform activities in 2015.

8 Component 3: OYO Dance Troupe

This year, the ODT once again enjoyed great success. Unlike other components, it doesn't rely exclusively on donor funding, but manages to raise enough money through commissions and paid performances to help sustain itself.

8.1 Workshop with Jennifer Irons

Jennifer Irons, a dancer and choreographer from the UK, had approached OYO three years ago, saying that she'd be interested in volunteering her time working with the ODT. At the beginning of 2014, she was able to join us. She worked with the ODT for a week, creating a piece on stigma and discrimination (*When the tides turn*) and with the Rundu YG, creating a piece on sugar daddies.

Jennifer had this to say about her time with the ODT:

The dancers work very hard and we have long, long days trying out different dance moves and putting them together bit by bit, until we have a full performance that tells the story. The reason we are working like this is because we want to achieve three aims:

- *Start a conversation. If people are talking about something, then it is easier for people to understand and help those affected not to feel so alone.*
- *Educate. We can't catch HIV from touching people or being their friends. It's fear and not knowing the truth about something that causes stigma and discrimination. So we want people to understand that there's no need to fear and therefore no need to discriminate.*
- *Finally, we hope that through this process, people will start to change their thinking and then their behaviour. These are big topics to work with in a dance piece but I think we are happy with the result!*

8.2 Workshop with Stefan Baier

Thanks to the Goethe Centre, OYO could invite Stefan Baier to visit Namibia for three weeks. OYO's Director met Stefan when he was in Leeds in July 2012. It took 18 months to find a slot that was suitable for both Stefan and OYO. Stefan could eventually join us at the end of January, and he spent three weeks working with the ODT. Between the visits of Jennifer Irons and Stefan, Philippe Talavera had started working with the troupe on *Erotica?*, a piece that deals with the issue of sex and teenagers. Somewhat daring in the beginning, with dancers stripping to their underwear, the piece suddenly becomes grave and serious, and includes impressive lifts, in particular from Rodney Isaac and Mary Jane Andreas. The piece was very well received.

Stefan Baier is a German dancer and choreographer, currently living in Belgium. Stefan has been working with different theatres, choreographers and visual artists throughout Europe, including the National Theatre of Greece, Charleroi/Danses/Michele Anne de Mey, William Forsythe, KVS Brussels, Nigel Charnok, and others. Over the last few years, he's been collaborating with Janyce Michellod/Lastalaïca Productions in an ongoing research project into perceptions and integration of the body and the mind, and their implications for choreography and our notions of reality. He spent three weeks with the ODT, devising the piece *You've changed*. Stefan explained: "OYO deals with very heavy and emotionally difficult issues. I wanted the dancers to just enjoy dancing. I wanted a piece that was fun, full of energy, happy."

It was indeed happy and full of energy, especially as it involves the audience joining in. On Friday 7 February, OYO presented an exciting evening of dance at the Goethe Centre. The hall was packed to capacity, with over 150 people attending the evening. Both pieces (*Erotica?* and *You've changed*) were presented, together with an abstract solo piece, *Klangstueck I within a season of an opportunity* by Stefan.

8.3 Tour to Kunene Region with the Global Fund

According to the new contract OYO had signed with the Global Fund, the ODT was to tour once per quarter. For the first quarter, it was decided that OYO should tour Hardap and Karas regions. The group presented *When the tides turn* (choreographed by Jennifer Irons), *Erotica?* and *Sugar babes*.

The tour was successful; 19 shows were organised, reaching 5 099 people. OYO experienced some problems with the Toyota Quantum, as two tyres burst, and there was only one spare wheel. As a result, the programme was delayed, and the Operations Manager and the Production Manager had to be in constant communication to rework the daily schedule. In the end, however, the schools could be reached. In Kamanjab CS, the Inspector for Education joined the audience.

In most schools, *Erotica?* stood out as being different. Older women, in particular, often found the piece to be too provocative. The message was clear, however, and during the post-performance facilitation, it was easy for the facilitator to discuss the consequences of sex with learners.

The two people who abstain, they were in a good situation without fighting and being in need of money to support their baby, so I really prefer abstaining.

Uakarisa Kakuva, male, 20 years old, Outjo SS

I like “When the tides turn” most, because if a person is sick or infected by HIV, it doesn’t mean he/she has to be treated like a thieving dog. He/she is just a human being like other, even if he/she is sick.

Squazza Angula, male , 19 years old, Alpha CS

It shows the small children from the primary schools that if they are playing hard for money, they will end up getting HIV/AIDS (like in the piece “Sugar girls”). I think the school or the mayor of the town should invite organisations like OYO, Red Cross, etc. to come and play drama to spread the information, because it is very good.

Kakuva Verandisiua, female, 21 years old, Mureti HS

8.4 Tour to Omusati Region with HAMU

In collaboration with UNICEF and DAPP, the MoE is embarking on an exciting project: promoting HIV testing in schools. Two regions (Omusati and Oshana) have been selected for this pilot project.

OYO is a beneficiary of the Global Fund. Since the emphasis of the Global Fund SBCC component is to create demand and promote existing services, OYO suggested that a tour be organised of the ODT to Omusati Region. Together with the RACE Coordinator, 22 schools were selected and the tour was organised. During the tour, the ODT would present three pieces, and promote the idea of testing through facilitated discussion.

The following pieces were presented during this tour:

- *When the tides turn* is about stigma and discrimination. The aim of this piece is to discuss the fears young people often have about going for testing, and to encourage them to be stronger and go for the test.
- *Sugar babes* is about inter-generational relationships. It clearly shows that young people embarking on such relationships are particularly at risk of contracting HIV, and should therefore take HIV testing very seriously.
- *Erotica?* shows the benefits of abstaining versus having sex while still too young. We feel that it is important to end the show with a strong message on abstinence.

When all was organised and schools were expecting us, we received notice from the Global Fund that activities needed to be put on hold. The Global Fund asked for a revision of NANASO SBCC activities to align them with the Combination Prevention Strategy document being developed.

We therefore partnered with HAMU from the MoE to proceed with this project. The dancers left Windhoek on 14 May to Omusati Region. Shows were organised from 15 to 23 May, and the three pieces were presented in 22 schools, reaching a total of 11 071 people, of whom 10 549 were learners or students.

Thanks to the RACE Coordinator, OYO could visit new schools, such as Omutundungu CS and Ananias Emvula JSS, which we had never visited before. It was exciting for the learners to discover the ODT for the first time, and to receive the message being offered.

The evaluation of this project was mostly undertaken through questionnaires distributed to learners at the end of performances. Such a tool can only determine knowledge gained

and understanding of the performance. It cannot realistically assess behavioural change (since this takes some time to effect).

A total of 237 learners from 22 schools were asked to give feedback on some questions.² The following feedback was received:

Question 1: Which topic do you think is the more relevant in your community?

<i>Sugar babies</i>	66 respondents
<i>Stigma and discrimination</i>	61 respondents
<i>Abstinence</i>	88 respondents

It was interesting to note that all three issues were deemed to be relevant by a significant proportion of respondents. Different learners prioritised different issues, which is to be expected. However, all issues received many votes, which suggests that the choices made for this tour were sound.

Question 2: Which piece touched you the most?

<i>Sugar babes – sugar daddies</i>	69 respondents
<i>When the tides turn - stigma and discrimination</i>	71 respondents
<i>Erotica? – abstinence</i>	71 respondents

It is interesting to note that even though abstinence was seen to be the most relevant topic (Question 1), personal responses (how the pieces “touched” the respondents) were almost equally spread amongst the three topics.

Question 3: In Erotica?, in which situation would you like to be (you yourself)?

Like the couple who have a baby	11 respondents
Like the couple where the man is beating his wife	2 respondents
Like the couple in red	10 respondents
Like one of the two people who are abstaining	209 respondents

This was an interesting question, as all the options are bad except the last one – yet some learners obviously don’t want to abstain; 11 respondents wanted to have a baby while still at school, which is of concern. This phenomenon should be investigated further.

Question 4: What do you think?

Abstinence is easy to follow	185 respondents
Abstinence is difficult to follow	31 respondents

When processing such questionnaires, we know that learners tend to try and give what they perceive is the “right” answer, in this case, “Abstinence is easy to follow”. However, the truth is that it is not always that easy, in particular because of peer pressure. The fact that 31 respondents acknowledge this reinforces our view that abstinence for

² Some learners did not answer some questions, so the total for each individual question is not necessarily 237.

learners in secondary school who are 15 years old and upward, while an option, is not always the easiest to implement.

Question 5: In the dance, what was the consequence for the girl who was being discriminated against?

She committed suicide	76 respondents
She stopped taking her treatment	72 respondents
She contaminated other people	79 respondents

The answers to this question raised concern. The right answer is “She committed suicide”, which only one third of the respondents selected. It is not clear what prompted the other respondents to answer incorrectly. This piece was developed by a guest of OYO from the UK, Jennifer Irons. It may be that it is a little more abstract, and hence less easy for the audience to understand. OYO will investigate further and, if the piece is indeed misleading, will remove it from its repertoire.

Question 6: How was the show?

Excellent	195 respondents
Good	27 respondents
Average	1 respondents
Poor	0 respondents

We are pleased that the majority of respondents adjudged the show to be either good or excellent.

OYO is satisfied with the outcome of this project. It will be important to follow up with the HIV testing intake at school level, to see if learners indeed go for the test. The MoE was very accommodating, and we are proud that we could reach so many learners in a meaningful way.

OYO would like to thank HAMU/MoE for their support.

8.5 Day of the African Child tour

OYO decided to celebrate the Day of the African Child with a tour by the ODT to schools and communities, addressing issues around HIV/AIDS and GBV in a child-friendly manner. Specifically, OYO also mobilised adolescents and young people to make use of the easily accessible school-based HIV testing and counselling services being offered with UNICEF support.

The tour was challenging to organise. It was to start in Omusati Resion and Oshana Region (to link with the HIV testing programme that was to be launched) and then proceed to Otjizondjupa Region, which OYO had selected for its Day of the African Child project.

By the end of March, OYO’s SBCC activities under the Global Fund had been frozen. Among these activities was a planned tour to Omusati Region, scheduled for May. The RACE Coordinator felt it was too late to cancel the tour, and suggested that an approach be made to HAMU for funding for this tour. HAMU then suggested that it should also be linked to the HIV testing project in the region.

The idea was welcomed, because there were too many schools to visit during the week allocated to the Day of the African Child tour. OYO decided to visit six of the Omusati schools in May, with the HAMU funding, and two Omusati and six Oshana schools in June, with the UNICEF funding. In this way, 87.5% of the schools component of the programme could be completed.

A further difficulty arose when it became clear the actual testing would start after the Day of the African Child, with most schools only being visited in July. OYO couldn't change its programme (the ODT was in the UK in July) and so visited the schools well before the actual testing. However, the visit was used to get the schools excited about the forthcoming HIV testing visit, so it still served its purpose.

The following pieces were presented during this tour:

- *When the tides turn*
- *Erotica?*
- *He loved me* (a new piece on GBV, following the story of a couple whose relationship falls apart after the man loses his job)

The visit took place from 4 to 19 June. In total, 11 550 people (of whom 10 123 were young people) attended the performances, both in and out of schools.

8.6 Preparing for the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival

The ODT was honoured by being invited to represent Namibia at the 2014 Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival in Glasgow, Scotland. The Festival celebrated the best of youth dance from across the Commonwealth.

In preparation for this international event, OYO embarked on a nationwide selection process to identify potential young talented dancers aged 21 or younger. OYO had benefited from an earlier grant from the First National Bank of Namibia Foundation, which supported workshops with members of youth groups from Rundu, Grootfontein, Eenhana, Outapi, Tsumeb, Keetmanshop and Windhoek. Ten young dancers were selected through these workshops.

Between January and June 2014, the ten young dancers benefited from training from OYO, and created a piece to be presented at the Festival. The training successfully covered

- training on OYO's techniques with OYO's Director;
- contemporary dance training with South African dancer Grant Edem; and
- teaching of OYO's existing pieces (the aim was to help the new dancers prepare for the Day of the African Child and get some experience of performing in front of an audience).

In parallel, the piece *24 years* was produced. The Festival had given clear guidelines to participants. Each piece had to be seven minutes long. It could not be on issues OYO normally works with (such as HIV or GBV) but could present/represent the country of origin. *24 years* therefore looked at challenges young people face, and their hopes for a better future.

Prior to departure for the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival, OYO organised an event at The Warehouse Theatre on 19 June. Guest speakers included Micaela de Sousa, UNICEF Country Representative; H.E. Marianne Young, British High Commissioner; and Hon. Juliet Kavetuna, Deputy Minister in the MYNSSC. The event was attended by over 200 guests, including many officials from the UN, and various embassies, ministries and sister NGOs. The event was a resounding success.

On 28 June, the group left for the UK, returning on 16 July.

8.7 Gender-based violence project and Omaheke Region tour

The ODT revived the piece *Don't leave me*, on intimate partner killings, and created two new pieces, *He loved me* and *Take my hand*, for this project. The three pieces were successfully toured in Omaheke Region.

He loved me, in particular, was extremely well received, and was presented on numerous occasions. The project went so well that the three pieces will continue touring in 2015 to Hardap Region (with funding from Lifeline/Childline), Karas Region (with funding from the Horizon Foundation), Erongo Region (with funding from CSFN/EU) and Khomas, Ohangwena, Kavango East and Kavango West regions (with funding from the Global Fund).

8.8 Internship project and *Ever since Helen*

Every year OYO organises an internship programme, which usually runs over five weeks. This year, because of the UK tour, it was reduced to four weeks, which helped to contain the associated costs. In addition, advertising had emphasised the fact that OYO was going to participate in the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival, so OYO received more requests than in previous years. Six young dancers were selected. In parallel, a video student from Canada approached OYO to be part of the process. Finally, a young dancer in Leeds, upon meeting with the ODT, requested to also be involved in the project. Eight young people (six from the UK and two from Canada) therefore arrived in Windhoek for the project.

Working with eight young people (six dancers, one video/graphic designer, and one person to create the sound track and co-choreograph some of the sessions) was something new. It was agreed that the group should work on the issue of intimate partner violence, and the piece *Ever since Helen*, which examines jealousy and anger, was devised. The process began well, but the second week was less productive as most of the dancers got sick with the flu.

Seven shows were organised between 22 and 28 August, including two community shows (in Okahandja and Rehoboth) and a show at the Windhoek Central Prison. An official performance was organised at Khomasdal Community Hall on 28 August, and was attended by over 280 people. The video came together with the show only for the final official performance, but proved to be very successful.

I greatly appreciated the performances and was mesmerized by how, through dance, strong messages can be passed. You and your dancers are truly talented. Thank you!

John M. Kowalski, U.S. Charge d'Affaires (via email)

The interns also gave feedback:

My stay has been amazing. I've learnt so much about myself. I've found my career choice and dissertation topic.

Charlotte Cooper (whose dissertation is indeed on OYO and its use of dance to create social awareness; Charlotte will be back for the internship programme in 2015)

I was mostly moved by the community performances [in Namibia]. I got to interact with the young children and I really hope they learnt something from our piece.

Freya Jones

I have met some of the most incredible and inspiring people who will stay with me forever. This country, the audience reaction and all of the dancers (including interns) – this was possibly the greatest opportunity of my life.

Amy Stevenson

8.9 LGBTI project

In July OYO learnt that its application to the Prince Claus Foundation had been successful. The aim of the project is to create awareness on the rights of the LGBTI community. OYO will revive *Magda*, on “corrective” rape, and create two new pieces: one examining discrimination against gays and lesbians at healthcare services, and the other examining the unavailability of condoms in jails.

In October, OYO started with the piece looking at the lack of condom distribution in jails. Talking with young people who have spent time in jail, OYO learnt that 80% to 85% of the inmates had at one time or another engaged in sexual relations with another man while in jail. The sexual relations could have been forced (rape) or consensual; in either event, finding condoms is extremely difficult. As a result, some men can enter jail HIV-negative, but be HIV-positive when they leave. In turn, when back in their communities, they can infect their partners.

The piece *In and out* was devised during October. Towards the end of the process, Philippe Talavera (who was choreographing the production) had an accident and broke a bone in his right foot. Although he could finish the piece with the dancers, the decision was taken to postpone the production of the last piece to early 2015.

8.10 World AIDS Day tour

In 2013, the ODT developed *Choices*, on prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT): This 15-minute piece follows the story of two young ladies who are HIV-positive and pregnant. One goes for PMTCT, and her baby is born without the virus; one doesn't, and her baby is born with the virus.

Early in 2014, the ODT developed *Erotica?* for the Spanish Embassy. Thanks to funding from UNICEF, it could shorten and rework the piece. *Triangles*, which examines the phenomenon of multiple concurrent sexual partners, evolved out of this work.

Traditionally, OYO presents its pieces in communities in the period around World AIDS Day. Each piece was to be followed by a discussion, to ensure that audiences understood the message and had learnt from the event. This year, because Presidential and National Assembly elections were scheduled for 28 November, OYO decided to organise the tour earlier, from 4 to 25 November.

Performances took place in collaboration with the Ministry of Safety and Security (requests were received to perform for inmates and personnel in jails), the Keetmanshoop MPYC, various municipalities, and for the first time, a mine (Navachab Gold Mine).

All the shows were well received. The wind threatened some performances, especially in the south, but most shows ran smoothly. The rain only threatened to be a problem in Grootfontein, at the correctional service, but Production Manager Joshua Homateni reported, “The rain started after the first dance, luckily during the facilitation and not the dance. We had to disconnect our equipment as quickly as possible to avoid damage. The rain stopped after 15 to 25 minutes, and the inmates ... started to dry the stage with their own blankets and [soon] we were ready to continue with our performance.”

Audience numbers were lower than in the previous year, but the quality of the performances was high, and the feedback from the various audiences excellent. OYO therefore remains satisfied with this project, but will need to investigate why audience numbers have decreased.

Performing at the mine proved to be successful. Joshua noted:

The mine was very happy to receive us. Most of the mine workers were actually curious about what we really do, but some were thinking it's a waste of time. When we started with the performance, the mine workers couldn't hide their enjoyment – this was one of our best audiences, and they really enjoyed and appreciated the performance of the troupe. A lady from the mine clinic informed us that she will talk to the management to enquire about possible support for OYO.

In all, the ODT presented 41 shows, and the troupe members felt welcome in all venues. Thanks to UNICEF, some t-shirts had been printed, and could be given away as prizes. This encouraged the community to participate. This is a tool that OYO should consider for future projects.

It was outstanding. I hope and believe the youth has learnt something because I have learned a lot. If you abstain from sex you are at the safe side. It is all about adhering to the ABC theory.

Simone Jacobs, learner, Gibeon

I like “Erotica?” most. If you follow it and keep it in mind, you will be someone in life, not putting yourself at risk.

Betty Mwangala, female youth, Festus !Gonteb PS

It was excellent because it teaches us that it is good to take treatment to save the baby from HIV. It reminds us it is not good to have multiple sex partners because it is dangerous. The more you are having sex with many people, the more the number of HIV-positive people will increase in the community.

Theresa Shigwedha, female youth, Soweto, Windhoek

I believe my community understood the message of all the dances performed in our place. I liked all three dances because I know such things are happening in our community.

Hafeni, male community member, Eenhana

After the performances, audiences were invited to complete an evaluation questionnaire; 421 questionnaires were completed.

Question 1: The dances dealt with the following topics:

- Multiple sexual partners and HIV transmission*
- Abstinence and the consequences of unprotected sex*
- PMTCT*

Which topic do you think is the most relevant in your community?

Multiple sexual partners		Abstinence and sex		PMTCT		No answer	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
95	73	58	54	13	26	59	43

Question 2: The dances were called:

- “Triangles” - Multiple sexual partners and HIV transmission*
- “Erotica?” – Abstinence and the consequences of unprotected sex*
- “Choices” – Prevention of mother-to-child transmission*

Which touched you the most?

Triangles		Erotica?		Choices		No answer	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
74	75	46	41	41	41	66	37

Despite all the campaigns on multiple sexual partners (especially the “Break the chain” campaign), it is interesting to note that this remains the topic that is the most relevant in the various communities – 40% of all the respondents (53% of the respondents who answered that question) selected this topic; 27% of all respondents (35% of the respondents who answered this question) also felt that abstinence and the consequences of unprotected sex was an important topic.

Surprisingly, only 9% of all the respondents (12% of the respondents who answered that question) felt that PMTCT was an important topic (even more surprising: only 7.8% of women felt it was an important topic). However, 19% of all respondents (26% of the respondents who answered that question) felt that it was the piece that touched them most. It may be that PMTCT is a topic that is still not widely understood. More work is therefore needed to create awareness amongst the general public.

Question 3: If I know a woman who is HIV-positive and pregnant:

- I will tell her about Prevention of mother-to-child transmission and make sure she goes to the clinic
- I won't do anything: it's not my business

I will tell her about PMTCT		I will not do anything		No answer	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
219	171	3	3	13	13

The vast majority of respondents (93% of all respondents, or 98% of the respondents who answered the question) would share the information received, which is encouraging.

Question 4: What do you think?

- In my own case abstinence is easy to practice: I am abstaining now
- In my own case abstinence is difficult
- In my own case abstinence is impossible

I am abstaining		Abstinence is difficult		Abstinence is impossible		No answer	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
183	127	13	28	16	10	16	28

The majority of people (73% of all respondents, or 82% of the respondents who answered the question) answered that they were abstaining. Considering the sampled population and the fact that more adults were reached during the tour, it is likely that this answer doesn't reflect the truth. However, it may reflect what respondents felt they should reply. Everybody knows that abstinence is the safe option, and respondents probably felt they had to answer accordingly (since the questionnaires were not anonymous). Interestingly, 26 respondents stated that abstinence is impossible. Indeed, for many adults abstinence is a very difficult option, as confirmed by these respondents.

Question 5: In the first piece when the girl discovers she is HIV-positive, she tries to go back to her first boyfriend.³ What do you think?

- He should have accepted her back because he loved her
- He was right to run away because she was not a faithful girl
- He was right to run away because a man cannot have an HIV-positive girlfriend

He should have accepted her back		He was right because she was not faithful		A man cannot have an HIV-positive girlfriend		No answer	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
82	73	96	81	29	22	22	17

This was a difficult question, as it is very subjective; 42% of all the respondents (or 46% of the respondents who answered the question) felt he was right to run away, since she was not faithful, while 37% of all respondents (or 40% of the respondents who answered the question) felt that he should have accepted her back. Of concern, however, is the fact

³ In the story she has a loving boyfriend but chooses to go to another man who seduces her. After discovering the other man was HIV-positive and infected her, she breaks up with him and goes back to her first boyfriend, who then turns his back on her.

that 12% of all respondents (or 13% of the respondents who answered the question) felt that a man cannot have an HIV-positive girlfriend. This perception remains a problem in our communities. As long as people feel that way, they are unlikely to disclose their status to new partners (women who are HIV-positive and meet a new partner will be afraid their partners will dump them if they discover that they are HIV-positive; as a result, they won't tell him, or they may even not want to go for the test to find out for themselves). This is an area where we need to focus efforts and strengthen our actions.

Question 6: In the dance, what was the consequence for the girl who refused to take her treatment?

- Nothing: her baby was born HIV-negative anyway*
- She committed suicide*
- Her baby was born HIV-positive and she regretted not listening to the doctor, but she accepted her baby in the end.*

Nothing		She committed suicide		The baby was born HIV positive		No answer	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
44	28	6	27	146	113	23	33

The correct answer was “her baby was born HIV-positive”, which was selected by 61.5% of all respondents (71% of the respondents who answered the question). OYO was expecting more respondents to select the right answer, and will therefore investigate this result. The Production Manager reported that people were often in a hurry to complete the questionnaire. It might be that they didn't pay enough attention to the last question. However, this result invites further investigation.

82.5% of the respondents felt that the show was excellent, and 15% felt that it was good. The vast majority of attendees therefore enjoyed the experience.

8.11 Selecting new dancers

Upon the ODT's return from the UK, Johannes Magongo, a student at the Polytechnic of Namibia, resumed his studies. Two other dancers, Silivia Plaatjies and Mary Jane Andreas, also left the troupe. The group therefore invited Ivone from Outapie, Apsie and Julia from Gobabis, and Desmona from Windhoek to attend training sessions. Ivone, Apsie and Julia participated in the World AIDS Day tour.

In parallel, Ivan Mueze visited youth groups in Keetmanshop, Lüderitz, Swakopmund and Karibib, and identified potential dancers. An advert was also put on OYO's website. Eleven young people were selected to attend training in Windhoek from 1 to 12 December. Ten came on the first day; one dropped out after one day, and two dropped out during the first week. The other seven completed the workshop. At the end of the workshop, four were selected to join the 2015 ODT. They are Nelawrence Someb from Lüderitz, Michelle Kandingua from Tsumeb, Osyrin Puteho from Katima Mulilo, and Monray Garoeb from Windhoek. We would like to congratulate them, and wish them all the best for 2015.

8.12 Other performances

This year the ODT successfully attracted more paid performances. The biggest commission received was from the Spanish Embassy, which invited the troupe to create

a piece for Spain’s National Day, culminating in a performance at The Warehouse Theatre on 8 October.

All the music had to be Spanish. The Embassy also wanted some elements of traditional Spanish dances to be included. The group created *Hijo de la luna*, following an old Spanish legend. Set in a place where the moon is high in the sky, the piece explores the tensions between members of a group of people who fall in love, fall out of love, and fall in love again. As couples betray one another, tragedies unfold. This is a piece of contemporary dance inspired by Spanish hits such as *Hijo de la Luna* (Mecano), *Noche* (Le Oreja de Van Gogh), and *La danza del fuego* (Mago de Oz), with influences from more traditional forms such as the Sevillanas, Flamenco and Pasodoble. It is also inspired by Namibia’s current state of affairs, examining the issues of intimate partner killing and baby dumping. Is the moon looking over abandoned babies and lost lovers, or is it just another tale?

The event took place at The Warehouse Theatre on 8 October, in the presence of over 280 guests. It was opened by Spanish dancer Rocio Angulo, who also spent five days with the dancers.

Other important performances included:

- Performance at the Polytechnic of Namibia on 3 November for the official delegation, with the Mr Michel Sidibé, Undersecretary General of the UN and Executive Director of UNAIDS; and Ambassador Mark Dybul, Executive Director of Global Fund against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- Performance at the CSFN Namibia Summit, Safari Hotel, 18 September
- Performance for the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, 7 August
- Performance for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 25 August

In 2013, the ODT generated N\$54 879 through paid performances; in 2014, this rose to N\$79 750. The biggest improvement was becoming more consistent in pricing, while still allowing space for organisations/institutions that couldn’t afford the full cost.

8.13 Conclusion

It is difficult to describe the work done by the ODT to people who have not seen them in action, but the fact is that the ODT has been OYO’s most prominent component over the period under review. It benefited from support from various donors, and performed on several occasions. The invitation to the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival is a significant honour for the ODT. It is the first troupe in Namibia that has been able to pay dancers full-time salaries. The fact that this year we could again sustain these salaries is a significant achievement.

Table 3 Audiences for the ODT tours

Region / event	Pieces	Learners		Youths		Adults		Total
		Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Kunene	<i>When the tides turn; Sugar babes; Erotica?</i>	2 501	2 307	33	40	124	94	5 099

Omusati	<i>When the tides turn; Sugar babes; Erotica?</i>	5 416	5 003	65	65	296	226	11 071
Omusati, Oshana, Otjozondjupa	<i>When the tides turn; Erotica?; He loved me</i>	4 918	3 534	967	704	474	953	11 550
Khomas	<i>He loved me; 24 years; Stigma</i>	0	0	0	0	115	90	205
Omaheke	<i>He loved me; Take my hand; Don't leave me</i>	2 328	2 061	42	58	91	105	4 685
Internship	<i>He loved me; Ever since Helen</i>	73	65	189	182	188	210	907
World AIDS Day tour	<i>Triangles; Erotica?; Choices</i>	414	438	907	931	852	2 594	6 136
		15 650	13 408	2 203	1 980	2 140	4 272	39 653

Technical features of the ODT

Choreographer	P. Talavera
Project Coordinator & Tour Manager	J. Homateni
Troupe – Senior Dancers	E. Philander, J. Augustus, R. Isaac,
Troupe – Junior Dancers	A. Tsowaseb, D. Naibas, L. Naseb
Additional Dancers UK Tour	J. Magongo, O. Puteho, S. Plaatjies, M.J. Andreas
Additional Dancers WAD Tour	I. Kambangula, A. Nandeng, J. Masaka
Facilitators	I. Mueze, N. Mbarandongo, W. Gariseb
Logistics	C. Petrus
Assistants (Logistics)	K. Katumbo
Finance Coordinators	H. du Plessis, F. Scholtz

9 Component 4: DVD productions and shows

9.1 *My best interest*

Facilitation of Episode 3 (*Why can't I be like everybody else?*)

The third episode (produced in 2013) was extensively used in 2014. It was presented to a total of 15 346 people over the year. The DVD tackles the controversial issue of teenagers discovering their sexuality – in particular, one of the boys discovers he is gay. The DVD was extremely well received, and stimulated numerous discussions in schools and communities. It didn't generate any hate-filled comments, proving that it is a relevant tool to discuss this difficult issue.

Discrimination is wrong because it will affect you and your life and education and you will try to kill yourself. It is not good.

Tjikikara Kaapama, female, 16 years old, Rietquelle JSS

It was wrong for Johannes' dad to force Johannes to have sex with a sex worker, even though Johannes was a "moffie", because a school learner cannot be forced to have sex.

Toivo Johannes, male, 15 years old, Epako HS

To force a person who is under age and who is still a school child is not good and of course you are breaking the law.

Kauramuini Katumuta, male, 15 years old, J. Dohren HS

Facilitation of Episodes 1 and 2 (Left alone and Stinky boy)

These two episodes were still used as part of the project in Omaheke Region. They were facilitated to 1 390 people this year. As was the case last year, the films were very well received in schools.

The magistrate took the right option (to keep the three children together) because he wants the children to live peacefully, like they were with their parents beforehand.

Vekiapita-Mbaisa, female, 15 years old, Rietquelle JSS

Broadcast of Episodes 1, 2 and 3

The Namibian Broadcasting Corporation purchased the right to broadcast Episode 3 and re-broadcast Episodes 1 and 2. This happened at the end of the year.

Production of Episode 4 (Crippled)

The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany agreed to fund the production of the fourth episode this year.

Episode 4 looks specifically at the issue of access to education for children living with disabilities. It follows the story of a young girl who has to deal with the passing of her parents, arriving at a new school and being bullied because she is in a wheelchair. Her uncle tries to look after her, but doesn't manage to listen to her problems. She is on the verge of dropping out of school and losing her education. What options does she have?

Auditions and crew selection took place in June and July. Rehearsals ran in August, and the filming took place from 30 August to 6 September, during the school holidays. Following the filming, OYO immediately commenced with the editing. Early in December, the video was ready. On 9 December, it could be launched at the Goethe Centre, for an audience of over 90 guests. H.E the German Ambassador attended the launch and made the opening remarks; H.E the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China also graced the event with his presence. The film was extremely well received. The DVD will be used in schools in 2015. Previews can be viewed on YouTube:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJI4wl_rEC0 .

The person next to me was in tears during the movie. I think what happened to Nangula is terrible and this film clearly shows the impact it has. People were moved by the story.

Audience member at the launch

Thank you again for putting together such a fantastic film. From the story to casting to rehearsals to production to editing and other post-production activities, to the final product, you guided the whole process, and “Crippled” came out wonderfully! You really did an incredible job placing all the elements together ... and it was great to get to see how that all came together in the film at the premiere, and to see people in the audience appreciate it. Everyone I spoke to afterwards said that the film affected them and opened their eyes to the issues presented. My sister said there were parts where she just wanted to cry. So it definitely struck a chord.

Kandi Shejvali, actress playing the teacher in “Crippled”

The DVD will be used in 2015 in schools and communities, to address the rights of children living with disabilities and inform discussion of issues around bullying in schools.

The possibility of shooting one more episode in 2015 is being discussed, although securing funding would be an issue.

9.2 *Now that I can talk about it*

The DVD was produced in 2013, and facilitation started that same year. In 2013, OYO reached 8 232 people with this DVD on GBV (it follows the story of a teenage girl being abused by her stepfather). In 2014, it reached a further 4 427 people.

I learned that when a girl is suffering from something at home, it is difficult to say it out loud, and it will affect her studies.

Tomas Sakaria, male, 18 years old, Toivo ya Toivo SS

Sophie kept quiet because she was afraid after the threat that Tomas made and Tomas was the only breadwinner in their family since her mum lost her job. I think Tomas must be taught a lesson by being sentenced to life in prison for doing harm to someone with a bright future ahead.

Willem Mweneni Ipundu, male, 22 years old, Omaruru community

The Namibian Broadcasting Corporation also purchased the right to broadcast this film. It was broadcast on 16 November 2014. OYO received good feedback from the broadcast.

9.3 *Panado girl*

The DVD was produced thanks to support from the Global Fund in December 2013. Between January and April 2014, the editing and post-production took place. In May, the film was ready to be launched.

Unfortunately, in March the SBCC component of the Global Fund came to a standstill. The film was eventually launched on 21 May at The Warehouse Theatre, where it was extremely well received. Due to a lack of funding, it could not be used as extensively as OYO would have liked, and was facilitated to only 1 595 people. It is an important DVD,

dealing with the issue of taking ARVs at schools, and how to live with HIV while being a teenager. OYO hopes to find opportunities in 2015 to keep on using it.

It encourages us a lot, that whether you are HIV-positive or not, you can still live with or be in a relationship with a person who is not infected. You can still live a healthy lifestyle with an infected partner as long as you just use protection.

Hitjila Kanelombe, male, 18 years old, Concordia College

It was very touchy yet encouraging. It showed how discrimination can damage one's self esteem. If I were John I would go out with Naledi because I cannot get HIV by talking to her or being with her. Naledi is just like any other person who deserves love as well.

Ndapewa, female, 17 years old, Ella du Plessis SS

9.4 2014 Theatre and Film Awards

Every second year, the Theatre and Film Awards celebrations are held at the National Theatre of Namibia. This year, OYO was privileged to receive seven nominations:

- Best Music – Sonja Majewski, for the mini-series *My best interest*
- Best Editing – Vincent Mboku, for *Panado girl*
- Best Production Design – Philippe Talavera, for *Left alone*
- Best Male Actor – Dawie Engelbrecht, for *Now that I can talk about it*
- Best Female Actor – Anna Louw, for *Stinky boy*
- Best Female Actor – Melissa Reed, for *Panado girl*
- Best Film for *Stinky boy*

It went on to win two of the awards:

- Best Male Actor – Dawie Engelbrecht, for *Now that I can talk about it*
- Best Female Actor – Anna Louw, for *Stinky boy*

It was a great honour for OYO to receive two awards and be acknowledged for the quality of the DVDs it produces. Although the DVDs remain low budget productions, OYO takes as much care as possible in producing its films and working with young people. This peer acknowledgement at the award ceremony was well appreciated, and motivated OYO to continue with similar projects.

Technical features of OYO film productions in 2014

Director	P. Talavera
Director of Photography	B. Curschmann
Sound	B. Asheela
Writers for <i>My best interest 4</i>	M. Gawanab, B. Jagger, C. Mamhare, L. Ndhikwa, S. Ndhikwa, M. Nelenge
Gaffer	R. James
Make-up Artist	V. Hangula
First Assistant Director	F. Ndonggo

Editor	V. Mboku
Post-production	W. Majewski
Music	S. Majewski
Logistic and extras	F. Bohlke
Art Director	P. Talavera
Rehearsals Assistant	N. Mbarandongo
Best Boy	J. Homateni
Runner	I. Mueze
Assistant (Logistics)	K. Katumbo
Lead Cast for <i>My best interest</i>	Ottilie Johannes, Dawie Engelbrecht, Nadeshda Namashana, Elise de Wee, Kandi Shejvali, Johanna Nelundu, Christine Amushendje, Monray Garoeb, Vigilante Hasses, Edna Hainyanyula, George Matroos, Laurika Williams
Production Driver	E. Aoxamub
Finance	F. Scholtz

Table 4 Audiences for the DVD shows

DVD	# of children / learners		# of youths		# of adults		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
<i>Now that I can be like everybody else</i>	2 245	1 616	168	162	107	129	4 427
<i>My best interest 1 & 2</i>	582	596	38	48	61	65	1 390
<i>My best interest 3</i>	6 982	5 533	994	763	526	548	15 346
<i>Panado girl</i>	566	580	120	123	103	103	1 595
Total	10 375	8 325	1 320	1 096	797	845	22 758

Technical features of the DVD shows

Project Coordinator: Productions	J. Homateni
DVD Facilitators	I. Mueze, N. Mbarandongo, W. Gariseb
Finance Manager	F. Scholtz

10 Component 4: Institutional support

10.1 Staffing

2013 was a good year for OYO, despite a few hiccups. The Production and Youth Development teams were stable, and did a fantastic job. The Operations Manager, Cecilia Petrus, went on maternity leaves, but was replaced by Franscica Bohlke, who did a fantastic job.

Towards the end of 2013, OYO employed a new Finance Manager, Hendrietta du Plessis. Hendrietta resigned in May 2014, as she found the position too challenging for her. OYO had to re-advertise the position. Mr Freddie Scholtz was employed in June, and has done a fantastic job putting the finances of OYO back in order.

In April 2014, OYO's driver and messenger stole a cheque from OYO, forged signatures and stole N\$9 700. He was discovered and dismissed immediately. A case was opened against him, and a criminal investigation ensued. The case was then brought to the Labour Commission towards the end of the year, and the dismissal was upheld.

Towards the end of 2013, the ODT had lost three of its members. Between January and July 2014, OYO trained seven young people to join the troupe and perform at the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival. After the Festival, three of the young dancers were offered a contract, and joined the troupe. Three of the young dancers left the group shortly after the Festival. One remained till the end of the year as a trainee. Between September and December, OYO trained an additional 10 young dancers. By the end of the year, it had identified four new trainees. In 2015, the ODT will therefore comprise three senior dancers, three junior dancers, and four trainees.

OYO contracted freelance facilitators for the magazine between January and March. The system worked well in the beginning, but proved to be fragile when it became clear that the Global Fund grant had been put on hold for the SBCC component. Some of the freelance facilitators continued working till June in order to finish facilitating the magazine in the various schools OYO works with. No freelance facilitator has been employed since July 2014.

10.2 Transport

Despite putting its SBCC activities on hold, the Global Fund did purchase a bus for OYO, and delivered it in October 2014. The Global Fund chose not to purchase a local vehicle, but imported a new 14-seater Ford model at great cost from Europe. The bus arrived with a crack in the front windscreen. Since the model is unknown in Namibia, it proved to be impossible to replace the windscreen. It also proved to be almost impossible to have the vehicle serviced, or to acquire replacement parts. Finally it emerged that this bus couldn't be driven with a normal driving licence, but required a Code 10 licence. None of the OYO staff was in possession of such a licence. Joshua Homateni, Production Manager, had to quickly get a licence in order to be able to drive the vehicle. While OYO is grateful to the Global Fund for its support, it feels that the vehicle it purchased is not optimal.

10.3 Offices

Head Office is still situated at 4 Babie Street, Suiderhof, Windhoek.

10.4 Staff training

10.4.1 OYO quarterly training

OYO traditionally organises staff training for all staff members once every school term, providing an opportunity to reflect on achievements and plan for the quarter to come. This year, due to a lack of funding, it was not possible to organise such regular training.

A staff training programme was held from 5 to 9 January 2014. During the training, OYO's structure was explained at length, and the new magazine and topic were discussed. Knowledge gained during previous years on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections was reviewed. Facilitation of OYO's DVD produced in 2013 was also revised, and team building exercises took place.

10.4.2 Expert training

OYO was privileged to host Jennifer Irons, a choreographer from the UK. Jennifer had been in contact with OYO's Director for the past three years. Eventually, her funding applications were approved, and she could sponsor her flight and time in Namibia. She worked with the OYO staff, including dancers, from 8 to 12 January, devising the piece *When the tides turn*, which deals with stigmatisation and discrimination.

She then went with the youth development team to Rundu and observed Ivan Mueze, Nyandee Mbarandongo and Winslow Gariseb teaching *When the tides turn* to the Rundu YG.

10.4.3 Training freelance magazine facilitators

As discussed above, the magazine team had to be retrenched in 2012. At the beginning of 2014, OYO had funding to produce two magazines. It therefore had to train new facilitators. Eight potential facilitators from OYO's youth groups were identified. Only five, from Omusati, Otjozondjupa, Khomas, Hardap and Karas regions, were interested and available. They received initial training from 10 to 13 January. During the training, the structure of OYO and its code of conduct were explained. The objectives for visits 1 and 2 were discussed at length, and the group received training on the new magazine and topic.

A refresher course was held from 30 March to 2 April, to observe the facilitators, assess their progress, answer their questions, and train them on the second magazine and topic.

The facilitator from Hardap Region later found that the position was too demanding, and that his schools were not sufficiently cooperative, and he resigned in April. The facilitator from Otjozondjupa Region was motivated till April, but then lost motivation as OYO couldn't continue to produce the magazine.

Training freelance facilitators is time-consuming. This system has been a necessity for the past two years, given the sporadic production of the magazine. OYO is concerned that the need for training new facilitators will be ongoing, and wonders how this will impact on the quality of facilitation. With the new structure suggested under the NANASO/Global Fund grant, OYO will have to start training freelance facilitators from scratch – since they could not work with OYO since June 2014, they have all found new positions. When hopefully resuming with the magazine in 2015, OYO will have to start from scratch again.

10.5 OYO trustees' meetings

Full OYO Board meetings took place on 20 February, 28 May, 7 August and 13 November. Regular meetings with Board members took place throughout the year.

11 Other important activities

11.1 Annual audit and report

During January and February 2014, OYO's accounts were audited. The process was more difficult than in previous years, since Hendrietta du Plessis had just started working with OYO, and the auditors were auditing the work of her predecessor. As usual however, the auditors were satisfied with the results of the audit and the way in which OYO had handled its finances in 2013.

Throughout the year, various Global Fund audits were also conducted.

The 2013 Annual Report was prepared in January and February. Language editing and layout were performed in March, and the report was ready for distribution by the end of March. Due to the lack of funding, however, it could not be printed. It was shared electronically with OYO's partners, and put on OYO's website.

11.2 Director's networking in the UK

OYO's Director made use of the opportunity presented by the trip to the UK for the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival to also network with potential partners. Meetings were held i.a. with:

- The Maitri Trust in Edinburgh, which resulted in the invitation to submit a proposal
- The Elton John AIDS Foundation in London – its Head of Grants offered to put OYO in contact with organisations in SA that could benefit from OYO's expertise, as well as with potential partners in the UK that might be relevant to our work
- The Horizon Foundation in London, to review the application OYO had forwarded to them earlier during the year
- The Hofesh Shechter Dance Company, with the objective of discussing the possibility of two of their dancers coming to Namibia to work with the ODT
- Various interns who were coming to work with OYO dancers in August 2014, and Claire Hardy, a former intern (2012) who would like to return to Namibia

During the performance on 15 July at the Unicorn Theatre, OYO had a chance to introduce its work to Comic Relief. A private philanthropist was also present, thanks to the efforts of Wieke Eringa, and pledged a donation of GBP 500 to OYO, as he was impressed by the energy and commitment of the young dancers. Finally, the OYO Director also had a short meeting with Matthew Poxon, from the National Theatre Studio. Representatives from the Namibian High Commission to both the UK and France attended the performance and donated GBP 120 towards the ODT's final dinner in London.

During the trip, Philippe Talavera could meet with all the representatives of OYO Scotland: Wieke Eringa (Leeds), Jo and Alan Hobbett (Burntisland), Jane Salmonson (Edinburgh) and Fiona Morrell (London). Each put a huge amount of work and effort into making this trip a success. We would like to make use of this opportunity to thank them wholeheartedly for their support and commitment.

A full report was presented to the Board for further discussion.

11.3 OYO Scotland

Regrettably, the windmill project that Alan Hobbett, the founder of OYO Scotland, had been working on for years, has failed.

Meanwhile, progress has been made with Jane Salmonson in considering future options for OYO Scotland (including its becoming OYO UK) and submitting proposals. Of note is the success of the first OYO Scotland proposal. Following the meeting with the Maitri Trust Foundation, OYO was invited to submit a proposal, with OYO Scotland. The proposal, for US\$50 000, was accepted. This is a milestone for OYO Scotland, as it will help with building up its credibility while supporting OYO Namibia.

Other proposals to Comic Relief (for one small grant one larger one) failed. However, both applications were important steps, as many lessons were learnt during the process.

Jane Salmonson further decided to write her Master's degree dissertation on OYO. She therefore visited Namibia from 4 to 20 May 2014. OYO had been tasked with locating former beneficiaries – young people who had taken part in OYO's programmes while at school, or through out-of-school youth groups, between 2003 and 2011. Jane then went to interview them in an attempt to assess the impact OYO had had on their lives. Upon returning to Scotland, she wrote up her dissertation, focusing in particular on risk-taking among young people. She also provided a summary of her dissertation to OYO for the Maitri Application. This research is a relevant tool for OYO to prove its effectiveness and the impact it has had on the lives of the young people who have been involved in its projects.

While much still needs to be done for the growth and sustainability of OYO Scotland, we are satisfied with this development, and are excited about its future prospects.

11.4 Other fundraising strategies

OYO has continued to submit proposals and approach potential partners. In the changing donor landscape in Namibia, however, OYO acknowledges the need to explore alternative sources of funding. This year OYO has successfully:

- developed income-generating activities (as is the case with the ODT, in particular through the internship project, and the charging of a fee for performances at corporate events); and
- explored the possibility of developing proposals with like-minded NGOs, and with OYO Scotland.

OYO has been particularly successful at negotiating proposals. Most proposals it has negotiated have been for relatively small amounts of money – between N\$80 000 and N\$600 000. However, they have tended to be activity-oriented and focussed, with clear objectives. Such projects are easier to manage for staff, who can then clearly understand what is expected of them.

OYO was also privileged to have been invited to submit proposals to two Foundations that don't accept unsolicited proposals (the Horizon Foundation and the Maitri Trust), and hopes that this will pave the way towards new relationships in the future.

11.5 Other events and meetings

OYO is still part of the Child Rights Network of Namibia. Early in the year, OYO was instrumental in getting “Eish, a children’s column” started in The Namibian newspaper. The idea was to encourage children to reflect on issues affecting them. It was difficult to start, but five articles were printed in The Namibian’s Youth Paper section. The project was then handed over to Lifeline/Childline to take forward. OYO was also involved with the network in the preparation of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child shadow report, that was submitted to the Committee of Experts in Ethiopia in December.

Various meetings were held with NANASO, the City of Windhoek, and various government ministries. The OYO Director has dedicated some time to the preparation of the Road Construction Company Country Proposal Phase II, in particular the reformulation of the Social and Behavioural Change Communication Component. Many meetings were held between April and August 2014, resulting in the preparation of various work plans and budgets. News was received in September 2014 that the work plan and budget had been approved by Geneva. By the end of the year, however, it had still not been made official – no new contract or amendment had been signed, and implementation was still on hold. Global Fund activities had therefore not resumed by December 2014.

OYO attended various high profile events, such as the Queen’s baton relay in January. It also contributed to the celebration of the Day of the African Child.

OYO supported the Community Development Division of the City of Windhoek with their campaign on baby dumping. OYO’s Production Assistant, Nyandee Mbarandongo, trained children from Maggie’s Sunhouse over ten afternoons, and helped them prepare a drama on the topic. The drama was presented on 24 September at the UN Plaza, and was well received.

12 Thanks to our donors

OYO would like to thank all our donors and sponsors for their support, without which our work would not have been possible. OYO received financial support for its activities in 2014 from:

- The Civil Society Foundation of Namibia (CSFN) / European Union (EU)
- The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- The Federal Republic of Germany, through its Embassy in Windhoek
- The First National Bank of Namibia Foundation
- The Horizon Foundation
- The Maitri Trust
- The MoE/ HIV/AIDS Management Unit (HAMU)
- The Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture/ National Arts Council of Namibia

- The Namibia Networks of Aids Services Organisations (NANASO), through the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- The Prince Claus Foundation
- The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- The Valentine Charitable Trust

We would also like to thank:

- The Goethe Centre, for supporting our rehearsals and the visit by Stefan Baier (January/February 2014)
- Lifeline/Childline, for agreeing to support the tour of the ODT to Hardap Region in 2015, and for seconding a counsellor to the ODT tour to Omaheke Region
- The interns who came to Namibia and made sure the Summer Internship project was a resounding success
- Jen Irons, for sponsoring her second trip to Namibia to help us further develop our youth component
- Stefan Baier, for the weeks he spent with the ODT, and the knowledge he shared with all the dancers
- Anna Kendrick, for visiting us from Scotland and helping us prepare for the Commonwealth Youth Dance Festival
- YDance, Yorkshire Dance, Dance Base, the Unicorn Theatre and all their partners, for supporting our UK tour
- All the institutions and companies that supported the shooting of our DVD film project, in particular A. Shipena SS, Hage Geingob HS, Namib Construction, Hosianna Lutheran Parish, Khomasdal Community Hall, Amporo Residence, Goethe Centre, Immanuel Coffins & Caskets, Jarman Funeral Services, and Equipment List Rentals
- Greiter Conference Centre, for their generous discounts for facilities for our training programmes and workshops
- The City of Windhoek, for offering us rehearsal space
- The Ministry of Education, in particular all the Regional AIDS Committees for Education that helped us organise our tours
- All experts who have contributed articles to the magazine *OYO, young, latest and cool*

Finally, our thanks are also due to all the volunteers and youths who have, in one way or another, contributed to our projects.

Annex: Report of the independent auditor