

AIDS in Asia

BY John Stanmeyer

PAGES 76-77: Coffins line the entryway of an AIDS hospice, Lop Buri, Thailand. LEFT: Teenage sex workers and a client, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. RIGHT: Chained drug addicts at the Masjid Nurul Alam, Jakarta, Indonesia. FACING PAGE, TOP: Boy playing with the coffin of his mother, who died of AIDS, Chiang Mai, Thailand. PAGE 82: A class on HIV prevention, Manila, the Philippines.







Sulawesi Muslim community, and efforts in Solo to increase public input into Indonesia's draft law on water resources.

For 10 years, OSI's Burma Project has supported

the education and training of Burmese living near the country's borders and other efforts to empower Burmese and border ethnic groups in India and Thailand. The Project has also funded local media



Bound to El Norte

BY Don Bartletti

Each year thousands of children from Central America and Mexico stow away on freight trains in an attempt to reach the United States, often to reunite with parents. ABOVE: Vultures and children compete for scraps at the Tegucigalpa landfill, Honduras. FACING PAGE, TOP: A Honduran teenager jumping on a freight train, Veracruz, Mexico. FACING PAGE, BOTTOM: Hiding inside a pipe under a highway on the Mexican side of the border with Texas, Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Mexico. PAGE 98: A Honduran boy imagines his future from the top of a speeding freight.





with police reform efforts in Peru and Mexico, and funded the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Peru to establish accountability for past human rights abuses.

HARMONIZING ECONOMIC POLICYMAKING WITH OPEN SOCIETY VALUES The LAP's policy work included activities aimed at examining the impact of "Washington Consensus" economic policies on the consolidation of democracy in Latin America. Specific activities included support for policy research into the impact of these policies on democratic governance, ensuring that Latin American voices were included in Washington, D.C., policy debates about alternatives to the "Washington Consensus," and encouraging the development of policies that better support the consolidation of democratic regimes while maintaining sound fiscal discipline.

FUNDACIÓN SOROS–GUATEMALA

Guatemala held turbulent presidential elections in which voters rejected a former dictator and chose Oscar Berger, a businessman and former mayor of Guatemala City. Both before and after the elections, the Fundación Soros–Guatemala (FSG) supported activities to increase citizen participation in the political process. FSG also pursued organizational changes to increase its emphasis on regional initiatives and building civil society's capacity to influence decision makers and institutions.

Prior to the November elections, Moloj, an indigenous association sponsored by FSG, provided political training to 30 percent of the Mayan women candidates running in national and local elections. For the elections, FSG also supported efforts to increase critical thinking and political participation by Guatemalan citizens. FSG continued its 2002 study using 50 focus groups and six national polls to assess what motivates and attracts Guatemalan voters and how much faith they have in democracy and democratic institutions. The study focused attention on government programs, anticipated credibility problems faced by electoral authorities, and conveyed citizens' lack of satisfaction with the media's role in the electoral process. FSG shared its study results with MINUGUA (the UN Verification Mission), political parties, the private sector, electoral authorities, and the media.

To increase its regional activities and presence, FSG, after numerous consultations with Central American organizations, developed a subregional program for rural investments, public policy, and justice. FSG negotiated the establishment of a pilot Central American rural investment fund that will invest in small and medium-sized enterprises with monies provided by the Soros Economic Development Fund. FSG also began discussions with the Inter-American Development Bank and Honduran officials about finding regional sponsors for the Rural Productivity Prize, an annual award given by FSG and the World Bank to economically sustainable rural development projects that improve people's lives.

FSG and OSI's Latin America Program (LAP), in