Many papers in this month’s issue address the special theme of strengthening the linkages between sexual and reproductive health and HIV. In the lead editorial, Michel Sidibé & Kent Buse (806) explain why these links are crucial to public health.

In a second editorial, Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum & Manjula Lusti-Narasimhan (807), commenting on the paper by Leo Bryant et al. (852–857), discuss the controversial issue of linking climate change with family planning.

South Africa

Microfinance and health

Julia Kim et al. (824–832) assess the effects of health interventions in microfinance schemes.

Swaziland

Avoiding stigma

Mantoe Phakathi (808–809) reports on efforts to link services for sexual health and HIV.

Brazil

Nicotine replacement

Claudia Jurberg (812–813) reports on how Brazil is taking tough action against smoking.

United States of America

Rocky road to recovery

Katherine Adams (810–811) reports on one hospital’s struggle to recover from Hurricane Ike.

Angola

Poor data, wasted money

Martinho Somandjinga et al. (871–874) show why malaria control requires good information.

Ethiopia

Testing assumptions

Duff Gillespie et al. (866–870) find that women seeking HIV tests have little demand for family planning services.

China

Economics and infections

In an interview, Xiang-Sheng Chen (814–815) describes how China’s economic boom has inadvertently fuelled growing epidemics in sexually transmitted infections and HIV.

South Africa

Back to basics

Adrienne Germain et al. (840–845) argue that HIV services need to be integrated with sexual and reproductive health programmes.

Funding patterns

Manjula Lusti-Narasimhan et al. (816–823) find that most proposals approved by the Global Fund reflect the links between sexual and reproductive health and HIV.

Progress and problems

Clare Dickinson et al. (846–851) provide a progress report on efforts to combine services for sexual and reproductive health and HIV.

Choices for women with HIV

Rose Wilcher & Willard Cates (833–839) address the reproductive health needs of HIV-positive women.

Sexually transmitted infections and HIV

Richard Steen et al. (858–865) discuss how the control of sexually transmitted infections helps reduce HIV transmission.

Respecting rights

Kevin Moody (875–876) calls for an end to discrimination against men who have sex with men and against people living with HIV.

Environment risky for health

Eva A Rehfuess et al. (880–882) discuss the role of the health sector in developing environmental policies.