Reducing Harassment of Female Sex Workers (FSWs) in Low Income Setting: Tripartite Approach in Bangladesh

**Methods**

In this approach, SHG of FSWs, lawyers agency and local police centre are working together when a sex worker is imprisoned. These three parties have a memorandum of understanding for some activities which will ensure mutual benefit. Selected SHG members will contact with local police centre as well as lawyers focal person when a sex worker is captured. The lawyer agency engages lawyers for getting bail of the sex worker with nominal fee. And the motivated local police person avoid in raiding sex workers setting unnecessarily.

**Results**

This tripartite approach has started giving excellent result. It started working in favour of sex workers’ community. The self esteem and confidences of sex workers’ have significantly increased among FSW community especially in the SHG working area. This also helps changing the attitudes of influential people of the society.

**Conclusions**

Any good approach really works if all concerned stakeholders play their role at the right moment and in an appropriate way. This approach is one of the most successful examples in reducing harassments to the FSWs.

Perceived Infection Source Among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) and Transgender Women (TW) Recently Diagnosed with HIV, Syphilis, or Gonorrhoea/Chlamydia in Lima, Peru

**Methods**

323 MSM and TW from Lima, Peru diagnosed with HIV (45.5%), Syphilis (53.9%), and/or Gonorrhoea/Chlamydia (15.2%) within the last month were surveyed to assess partner sexual identity is associated with perception of most recent sexual partner as likely/highly likely to be the source of STI transmission.

**Results**

Respondents aged from 18–60 years old (Mean: 30.8, SD: 9.3) and self-identified as Heterosexual (6.0%), Bisexual (17.1%), Homosexual (64.8%), and Transgender (12.1%). Most recent sexual partners identified as Heterosexual (10.3%), Bisexual (41.5%), Homosexual (45.7%), and Transgender (2.5%). Perception of most recent sexual partner as likely/highly likely to be the source of STI transmission was reported by 57.2% (N = 120/218) of respondents. Heterosexually-identified partners were least frequently perceived as the source of STI (24.1% perceived as likely/highly likely source). Transgender partners were most frequently perceived as the source of STI (57.1% likely/highly likely source; PR = 2.4; 95% CI: 1.0–5.9; p = 0.5) followed by Homosexual (45.7% likely/highly likely source; PR = 1.9; 95% CI: 1.0–3.7; p = 0.06) and Bisexual (31.6% likely/highly likely source; PR = 1.3; 95% CI: 0.7–2.6; p = 0.06) partners, demonstrating a borderline statistical significance.

**Competitive Small Scale HIV Funding as a Catalyst for Increased MSM and TG Involvement in Local and National Responses to HIV/AIDS**

**Methods**

An evaluation was conducted after its first year of implementation through a review of strategies that are to be adopted during the first two years of the programme. The evaluation was included in the discussions among the partners of the Program during their inception meetings.

**Results**

Results of the strategic evaluations include:

1. There is a need to synchronise the various activities being implemented at the country level with other regional initiatives of the Program.
2. There is a need to re-cast the approaches of the Program, including the strategies identified in developing CBOs for MSMs and Transgenders especially in under-represented areas in the four countries.
3. There is a need to further examine the complementarity of the regional programme’s activities with those of the national programmes, particularly those with funding support from the Global Fund.

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**Conclusions**

These results from the early evaluation of the Program provide inputs on the refinement of approaches being used by other HIV prevention programmes targeting MSM and Transgender populations in the region.