

Wise Up Quarterly Narrative Report

(April-June) 2013

Timret Lehiwot Ethiopia

Wise Up HIV Prevention Program
Quarterly Narrative Report
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Reported to: DKT Ethiopia

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Addis Ababa

Introduction:

Wise Up is DKT's generic condom promotion and HIV prevention program implemented by Timret Lehiwot Ethiopia targeting female sex workers, their clients and other most at-risk populations (MARPs). The program is aimed at raising awareness on HIV transmission, prevention and scaling up services for sex workers. The program also aims at empowering sex workers with safer alternative sources of income to reduce dependency on finances raised from commercial sex work which exposes them to HIV infection.

Sex workers training, condom promotion events, drop-in centers service provision, stakeholder meetings, trainings for police officers and establishment owners, counseling and referral services are among the major activities and services launched by the program to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Project Implementation Sites: The program operates in 28 towns found in all regions of the country by establishing 32 DICs.

Tigray (Mekelle, Axum, Alamata, Adigrat and Shire), **Amhara** (D/Markos, B/Dar, Gondar and Dessie towns) **Afar** (Awash 40 town), **Oromiya** (Dukem, Adama, Assela, Shashemene, Robe, Wolliso, Jimma and Nekempte towns), **SNNPR** (Hawassa, W/Sodo, Arba Minch and Mizan towns) **B/Gumuz** (Assosa town), Gambella (Gambella town), **Dire Dawa City Administration, Harari** (Harar town), **Somali** (Jigjiga town), **Addis Ababa** (5 DICs).

Activities planned to be done during the reporting period (quarter):

- Training for female sex workers

- Training for other vulnerable groups
- Bi-monthly coffee ceremony sessions
- Condom promotion events
- Referral services
- Provide Business Development Skill (BDS) training
- Trainings for police/law enforcement officers
- Conduct bi-annual stakeholder meeting
- Provision of DIC services for sex workers
- Basic literacy/numeracy program in DICs
- Scholarship program for sex workers
- Distribution of different IEC & promotional materials

Brief description of achievements:

A. Training for female sex workers

2603 sex workers recruited from different venues and some from streets trained on the basics of HIV/STIs, preventions, appropriate condom use and negotiation skills and other topics using the training manual. The number of sex workers trained in each region is presented in the table below.

Region	Tigray	Amhara	Afar	Oromiya	SNNPR	B/Gumuz	A.Ababa	Gambella	D.Dawa	Harari	Somali	Total
# of SWs trained	373	424	75	725	275	83	398	75	75	50	50	2603

B. Training for other vulnerable groups

Daily laborers, uniformed services, taxi and truck drivers, people with disabilities, in-school youth and people who travel for business and professional work are mostly considered as potential clients of sex workers and because of different reasons considered vulnerable to HIV. The regular or non paying clients of sex workers with whom condom use is low are also other vulnerable population groups.

Thus, 1431(1009 M & 422 F) individuals trained in all the DICs. Daily laborers still account for the major part of the participants. The uniformed, house maids, “delala” and “woyalas” were also part of the groups addressed by the training.

Region	Tigray	Amhara	Afar	Oromiya	SNNPR	B/Gumuz	A.Ababa	Gamabella	D.Dawa	Harari	Somali	Total
# of individuals trained	250	165	50	380	175	45	196	40	50	40	40	1431

C. Sensitization workshop for Police /Law Enforcement officers

To help police officers understand the situation and needs of the sex workers, this program has developed strategies to address the police and law enforcement agencies’ negative attitudes and practices. These strategies include educational training and seminars on issues such as harm reduction as well as establishing and maintaining contact with local police officials and justice bodies to raise awareness of the program’s work. Thus, 635 participants (461 M and 174 F) from the police and persons from the justice office participated in the sensitization workshop conducted in all DICs. Topics of discussion in the workshop were:

- Presentation on the Wise Up program: objectives, strategy, activities, services and operation areas, etc,
- Briefing on Wise Up achievements made so far,
- Sessions on the basics of HIV/STIs,
- Sessions on condom: facts, myths and correct demonstration,
- Gender based violence,
- Understanding the nature of sex industry (international & local practices),
- Roles of police officers & justice bodies in combating harassment and violence,
- Roles and responsibilities of the law enforcement in HIV Prevention,
- Information on the service providers in the given areas for referral services,
- Any other issues as found necessary depending on the local context of each site.

D. Provision of Business Development Skill (BDS) for SHG members

As a continuation of the previous life skill training, the same 100 sex workers who are member of the self help groups participated in the two days BDS training.

E. Conduct bi-annual stakeholders meeting

A total of 777 key stakeholders drawn from different institutions and walks of life (local leaders, hotel/bar owners, representatives from different government offices, health facilities and NGOs) well oriented about the Wise Up program and its good deeds in all DICs. The meeting was aimed at: orienting the stakeholders about the Wise Up program and activities, soliciting buy-in and support for the smooth implementation of the program and to advocate for non-violent and non-discriminatory treatment of sex workers. The meeting was also a good opportunity to promote consistent and correct condom use.

F. Condom promotion events

Wise Up has been consistently promoting the use of condoms since its inception. The promotion is done with both educational and entertaining events such as mass rallies, music, drama, quizzes,

workshops, races, etc in partnership with local circus clubs and music bands, and other local prominent figures so that various safer sex messages and themes are passed from organizers to the general public. Messages are also transferred through the distribution of different IEC/BCC materials.

To this end, 52 events were organized and 137,642 individuals estimated reached by the events. Attempts made to organize the events along with "Ginbot 20", victory day.

G. Bi-monthly coffee ceremony sessions

The coffee ceremony is planned to be conducted once every two weeks with the project beneficiaries at all drop-in centers. In some DICs the session was conducted every week. The coffee ceremony sessions are aimed at addressing key messages and reinforcing the topics discussed in the basic two days training. Additionally, the ceremony is also used as a mechanism to attract sex workers to visit the DICs for different services.

During this reporting period, 6626 sex workers are reported to have participated in 263 coffee ceremony sessions. Note that the same sex worker may participate in different sessions at different times in the same DIC. So that the same sex worker may be counted twice, three or four times in a quarter.

H. Counseling and referral services

The referral linkage is just established with local health service providers. Hence, 813 sex workers have received counseling on HIV testing, STI treatment and other related issues at DICs. 670 sex workers were referred to the nearby health facilities for different reasons of which HCT and STI treatment account for the major reasons. Among the referred sex workers, 463 were confirmed reaching the referral site (got services).

I. Provision of DIC services for sex workers

A total of 42,396 visits were made by the sex workers to utilize the different services of the DICs. The major services and the number of visits made by sex workers to the DICs for different services are presented in the table below:

Number of visits by type

No.	Major Services Provided	# of visits
1	Rest & Entertainment	12,100
2	Laundry & Shower	12,180
3	Health Education	2038
4	Counseling	813
5	Cooking	3265
6	Condom provision	2317
	IEC & promotional materials provision	9432
Total Beneficiaries		42,145

J. Basic literacy/numeracy program in DICs

In the previous quarter, 160 sex workers were enrolled for this pilot program. The program is designed for those who cannot read and write at all and aimed at enabling them to read and write after completing this literacy program which lasts for 3 months. Finally, 119 sex workers graduated from the program.

K. Scholarship program for sex workers

12 sex workers who are interested to attend short term vocational trainings were sponsored to pursue the trainings. These are in Axum, Harar and Hawassa.

L. Distribution of different IEC & promotional materials

37,513 different IEC & promotional materials were distributed to sex workers, other vulnerable groups and individuals in the reporting period during trainings and events.

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M. Issues related to Cooperatives/SHGs

During this reporting period, cooperatives altogether made a total profit of 162,618 birr. They also saved 146,376 birr. They have accumulated a total capital of 687,110 birr (in cash).

Summary of achievements made in the quarter

No.	Activities	Measurement	Plan	Achievement	%	Remark
1	Training for female sex workers	# of sex workers	2870	2616	91	
2	Training for other vulnerable groups	# of participants	1400	1431	102	
3	Training for police officers	# of participants	640	635	99	
4	Provide BDS training for SHG members	# of participants	100	100	100	
5	Bi-annual stakeholders meeting	# of participants	960	777	81	
6	Condom promotion events	# of events	64	52	81	
7	Coffee ceremony sessions	# of sessions	243	263	108	
9	Provision of referral service	# of sex workers	960	670	70	
10	Provision of DIC services for sex workers	# of visits	48,000	42396	88	
11	Basic literacy/numeracy program	# of sex workers	100	119	119	Graduated
12	Scholarship for sex workers	# of sex workers		20		
13	Distribution of different IEC & promotional materials	# of materials distributed	32,544	37513	115	