

Wise Up is DKT’s generic condom promotion and HIV prevention program targeting female sex workers, their clients and other most at-risk populations (MARPs). During the reporting period, different activities that contribute to Wise-Up’s goal of reducing the transmission of HIV/STIs by increasing condom use among sex workers and clients were done. The table below presents the summary of achievements made over the last six months.

Summary of activities and achievements

No.	Activities	Unit	Plan	Achievement	%	Remark
1	Training for female sex workers	# of sex workers	6,293	5741	91	
2	Training for other vulnerable groups	# of individuals	2,165	2146	99	
3	Bi-weekly coffee ceremony sessions	# of sessions	492	512	104	
4	Condom promotion events	# of events	130	111	85	
7	Conduct sensitization workshop for police officers	# of police officers sensitized	1280	1194	93	
8	Provision of referral services	# of sex workers referred	1,920	1120	58	
9	Provide Life Skill training for SHG members	# of sex workers trained	100	100	100	
10	Provide BDS training for SHG members	# of sex workers trained	100	100	100	
11	Provision of DIC services for sex workers	# of visits by sex workers	96,000	80280	84	
12	Introduce basic literacy/numeracy program in DICs	# of sex workers enrolled	100	119	119	
13	Scholarship program for sex workers	# of sex workers	5	24	480	
14	Distribution of different IEC & promotional materials	# of materials distributed	58144	66975	115	
15	Hold Bi-Annual Stakeholders meeting	# of participants	1920	1570	82	
16	Organize annual performance review meeting/Annual Summit	# of review meeting	1	1	100	

Explanations as to why targets were done

We can say that all the activities planned to be done in the reporting period executed very well. Most of the planned activities are more than 90% achieved. The following are explanations as to why we achieved so.

- Opening up of three additional DICs in Shire, Robe and D/Markos towns played its own great part in reaching more target groups.
- Training for bar owners, police officers and stakeholder meetings helped us a lot in soliciting buy-in and support for the smooth implementation of the program. As a result, immediate local solutions started to be given for local challenges.
- Provision of on-site technical support to field staff through regular supportive supervision improved the implementation capacity, ensured quality and timely execution of program activities as per the plan.
- Uninterrupted flow of budget to the field offices/DICs.

Trends:

There is quite an improving trend of program implementation with quality and timely delivery of targets set to be achieved. However, this can be maintained if the basic inputs and budget are fulfilled and keep flowing uninterrupted.

Alternatives for sex workers

Establishing self help groups of sex workers around primary social and economic needs such as saving schemes, literacy, etc is done to ensure that sex workers benefit from alternative income generating schemes. There are 29 already existing cooperatives running their own business. Additionally, since July 2012, 16 sex workers' self help groups are also formed in different DICs. Technical support and capacity building trainings provided for 100 sex workers grouped in to 10 self helps. Life skill and business development skill trainings are examples of these. Besides, material and financial support is to be given for those found eligible to help them start their business.

As a means of earning additional income, sex workers are also engaged in condom sale activity. Currently, 13 sex worker cooperatives are engaged in this activity in the DICs.

Provision of scholarship opportunities for the sex workers to help them attend short term skill trainings of their interest is also part the scheme of creating alternatives. To this end, 24 sex workers in Mekelle, Axum, Harar and Hawassa are now attending short term skill trainings (3-6 months). Bajaj driving license, catering and hair dressing are among the courses chosen by the sex workers to learn.