

WORKSHOP REPORT

WORKSHOP ON MAINSTREAMING GBV, HEALTH, HIV AND AIDS REPORTING 6-8TH NOVEMBER 2012 MALAWI SUN HOTEL BLANTYRE



Dalitso Nkunika

Photo: Kondwani Chamwala

ANNEX D: MEDIA COE WORKSHOP REPORT FORM
Please use for stages 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8

Country	Malawi
Name of media house	All media houses in COE
Stage	Stage 7
Date	6 th -8 th November 2012
Venue	Malawi Sun Hotel
Partners	
Programme	Annex A.
Participants	Annex B.
Key points made in the inputs and discussion	<p>The report outlines key points discussed during the 2 day workshop on GBV and HVI/AIDS and Health reporting. The training workshop which is part of stage 7 of the Centres of Excellence (COEs) gender mainstreaming process is a continuation towards mainstreaming gender in the media.</p> <p>The general objectives of the workshop were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To advance the targets of the 2008 SADC Protocol on Gender and Development • To explore the role of the media in reporting GBV, Health and HIV and AIDS issues • To effectively report and write on GBV, Health and HIV and AIDS <p>The SADC Protocol on Gender and Development which was signed by SADC heads of State in August 2008 was used as the overarching framework for the course. The SADC protocol quiz was administered at the beginning of the training workshop to the participants so as to gauge their knowledge levels.</p> <p>The participants were drawn from various media houses under the COEs project. In total, the training attracted 31 participants from 14 different media houses. The group was so diverse to the advantage of the participants for sharing experiences and good practice.</p> <p>At the end of the two day workshop every participant was able to write either a commentary or an article on GBV or HIV and AIDS. Participants had a fresher look at how issues of GBV and HIV and AIDS ought to be reported so that the gender dimension is clear and well covered. As part of the training participants were sent to the field to capture GVB or HIV and AIDS stories.</p> <p>As part of the campaign to end violence against women, participants were challenged to either publish stories in the print media or produce a radio program addressing GBV or HIV and AIDS issues affecting women. Participants were offered the necessary resource support in order to go to the field so that they come up with real stories affecting women at grassroots level.</p>

Outputs

- Commentary pieces, radio programs and story articles to be submitted to GL.
- Questionnaires to test knowledge, skills and attitude of participants on the SADC gender protocol and gender issues in general
- Gender Score cards for media houses

Outcomes

- Participants understanding of the relationship of GBV, HIV and AIDS as gender issues
- Participants able to report on GBV without victimising women
- Participants able to write opinion and commentary pieces on GBV and HIV and AIDS

PROCESS AND ACTIVITIES

All the media houses in the Centres of Excellence (COEs) project participated in the training, these included Transworld Radio Station (TWR), Dzimwe Community Radio, Capital Radio, Zodiak Broadcasting Station, Star FM Radio, Power 101 FM, Alinafe, The Nation Publication, The Malawi Institute of Journalism and MIJ FM, Radio Islam and Joy Radio. There were also two other media houses which attended the workshop but are not yet in the COE, these were Galaxy radio replacing Guardian newspapers and Living Waters Radio.

The workshop was opened by an address from Major G.V. Mgayi, a gender activist running an organisation called Men for Gender- Equality Now (MEGEN). The address highlighted what organisations like MEGEN are doing to combat GBV. He cited examples of GBV that go unnoticed in our society, in which he challenged the journalists to be able to unveil. The address also highlighted the lined up activities for the 16 days of activism against gender based violence. His address had some lines of thoughts for the journalists which kicked out our discussions for the workshop.

Participants were taken through the ten stages of the media COEs for them to appreciate why they were chosen to attend the workshop and what is expected of them after the workshop. Then a discussion on basic concepts in gender was discussed to get the participants understanding and appreciation of the relationship between GBV, Health, HIV and AIDS.

Further to this was a discussion that stemmed from the role of the media in combating GBV. A Critical analysis of how GBV issues are reported in the media gave participants a new perspective on how they should report GBV, HIV and AIDS issues. The topic on key gender concepts proved to be quite enlightening to participants who were

	<p>attending Gender Links organised workshops for the first time.</p> <p>Methods of training included open discussions and buzz groups. The major problem was on having new and different group of participants from media houses in the COEs, which makes it difficult for continuation. This implies that we had to spend some considerable amount of time on gender concepts and explaining the process of the COE before proceeding with the subject under discussion.</p> <p>CHALLENGES</p> <p>Apart from the problem highlighted above, participants complained of not having ample time to go in the field and investigate stories and discuss them. The workshop was only for two day and half day of field work. Participants felt that it would have cemented their understanding if the workshop spent some time to discuss the issues they identified from the field to discuss how they could be reported. Half a day for field work was not enough, as some participant went far away from town to get stories.</p> <p>CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</p> <p>The training workshop was well conducted throughout the two days, the participants were very receptive and the discussions were very fruitful. Every participant was well engaged.</p> <p>Workshops aiming at sharpening journalistic skills like this one should be conducted as part of in-house training so that it benefits a lot of journalists from media houses. Some media houses were challenged to send out their representatives because of staff shortages. It was also observed that most journalists move across media houses more often. In this case you end up with a new group of journalists who are not aware of the project. If it is done in house it means continuity will be much easier even if journalists move across media houses.</p>
Outputs	<p>Opinion and commentary pieces, Field stories and Radio programs. Samples of the same</p>
Comments on Knowledge and Attitudes Protocol quiz and discussions	<p>COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS</p> <p>Comments from individual participants were included in the evaluation form. The general comments however indicated that the workshop was timely and helpful as it gave them new insights on how specific issues on GBV, Health, HIV and AIDS need to be reported from a gender perspective.</p> <p>It was also very clear that a lot of journalists were not fully aware of the SADC gender protocol as evidenced by lack of data at the beginning but after the discussion all of the participants were fully aware of the protocol and each media house was given the handbook "making every voice count" which will be a useful resource on the</p>

	<p>protocol</p> <p>Some of the comments on the evaluation forms included;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The field work was very useful because it gave us the chance to appreciate the problems on the ground. 2. The workshops are very important and need to continue because as reporters there is need to be taught on GBV for us to report and dig deeper 3. All the sessions provided me with more insights on what gender protocols mean, why they are important and the role of the journalists in reporting gender issues 4. I will apply the skills gained by being more ethical and gender sensitive in reporting 5. Such workshops should be regularly organised as they are an eye opener to journalists who normally underestimate gender and health issues <p>A lot of the participant did not indicate the session they found least useful with an exception of a few who sighted repetition of sessions such as gender concepts because they have attended gender workshops before and these are the issues that are discussed all the time. Others did not find the relevance of the field work while the majority thought was an opportunity for them to get issues on the ground</p>
<p>Comments on media house scorecards</p>	<p>Most media houses showed that there is great work being done to mainstream gender in all spheres from policy frame work to editorial practices with most of them indicating satisfactory or good as responses. However there was a notable low score across media houses on paternity leave and specific training programmes in media houses to redress gender imbalances.</p>
<p>List of M and E forms and tools administered and sent to Gender Links</p>	<p>The following M and E forms and tools were administered and copies will be forwarded to Gender Links.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SADC Gender Protocol score card • Gender score card for media houses • Workshop evaluation form • Attitude survey • Quiz- SADC Protocol on Gender and Development • GMDC registration form