

**REPORTING ON HIV/AIDS (MODULE EIGHT)  
LIMPOPO CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE**

**VENUE: JACARANDA LODGE, POLOKWANE  
DATE TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2012**

**COMPILED BY:  
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**A. SYNOPSIS**

The module on HIV/AIDS (Module Eight of the Training Manual) formed part of the Media GBV Training Workshop held from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 at Jacaranda Lodge, Polokwane. Journalists, news presenters, programme managers and some station managers were present.

The following media houses represented by two delegates each (a total of 26 participants)

- a. Greater Tzaneen Community Radio Station
- b. Musina Community Radio Station
- c. Mokopane Community Radio
- d. Botlokwa Community Radio
- e. UNIVEN Community Radio
- f. Greater Lebowakgomo Community Radio
- g. Zebediela Community Radio
- h. Radio Turf
- i. Mohodi Community Radio
- j. Tubatse FM
- k. Sekhukhune FM
- l. Moutse Community Radio
- m. Phalaborwa Community Radio Station

The SADC protocol provisions on HIV/AIDS and gender were discussed according to the training manual. The power point presentation is attached. Group work was done on the link between sex, gender and HIV and AIDS. The model for understanding HIV and AIDS as well as the general dimensions of care work generated vibrant discussions which revealed the amount of information and knowledge the participants had.

**B. MODULE EIGHT (REPORTING ON HIV/AIDS)**

The following content was covered through a Power point presentation by Sheila Mmusi. The content included the following:

The **Gender dimension missing in media coverage of HIV/AIDS** and how women and people living with HIV and AIDS are represented in the media as well as trends in reporting on the pandemic

The **SADC Gender and Development Protocol** (Gender-sensitive policies and programmes; vulnerability of the girl-child; recognition of care work; and access to treatment)

The **HIV and AIDS pandemic in SADC** (its gender dimensions; lack of power in relationships when it comes to women; discrimination of women that are infected)

The **Research Studies** conducted by GL and the MMP (2005), namely, the HIV/AIDS Gender baseline study was discussed, and the 2010 GMPS data on media coverage of HIV/AIDS, showing that the percentage of men as sources was even increasing.

Statistics on **HIV/AIDS prevalence in SADC** were presented to the participants showing that Southern Africa was the most heavily affected by the pandemic (10 countries: Swaziland: 25.9%; Botswana; 24.8%; Lesotho: 23.6%; South Africa: 17.8%).

In SADC **the proportion of women living with HIV/AIDS** in SADC is higher than that of men (Average: 9% women vs. 40% men, varies from country to country)

The link between **Sex, Gender, and HIV/AIDS** was discussed with the participants also providing their opinions on factors that provided an enabling environment for women to be more vulnerable to AIDS

## **DISCUSSION EMANATING FROM THE PRESENTATION ON GBV and HIV/AIDS**

- Participants shared information the situation of HIV/AIDS treatment and care in their localities
- Challenges of beliefs and tradition which link the pandemic to witchcraft, and how some traditional healers still believe they can cure the disease
- Recognition of the stigma attached to HIV/AIDS in their communities, especially the rural communities, and the role they could play to educate and inform
- They revealed that not enough was being done and that it was mostly women who were involved in care work
- Most CR stations included HIV/AIDS content in the health programmes
- Recognition that more could be done through education and information cementing partnerships with NGO's , clinics, and hospitals in their localities, giving the issue more coverage
- Recognition of the need to train journalists on how to cover the subject

## **OUTPUTS FROM THE WORKSHOP**

- They indicated that through their radio stations they would encourage men to get involved in care work
- Some interviews conducted on GBV coverage around 16 Days of Activism and aired in the current shows of some community radio stations on 7<sup>th</sup> November (Mohodi CR, Sekgosesa CR, Sekhukhune CR, and Moutse CR)
- Preparation of Vox Pops for people around the local municipalities in Limpopo for 8<sup>th</sup> November
- 26 people participated in the workshop

## **OUTCOMES**

- The participants discussed their plans for the 16 Days of Activism Campaign for their radio stations
- Topics ranging from GBV, Health, HIV/AIDS, etc, based on what was learned
- Recordings of 8<sup>th</sup> November from Vox Pops shared by stations, as the groups consisted of participants from different stations

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Preparation of stories to be covered during the 16 Days of Activism for the Field Day of 8<sup>th</sup> November
- Cement partnerships with local government
- They were going to strengthen partnerships with local government and traditional councils

## **ANNEXURES**

- Attendance lists
- Photos
- Monitoring evaluations