

Oversight visit in Durres

Date of the visit: 22 Dhjetor, 2014

Oversight committee members:

Skender Fifo

Donika Godaj

Present staff from VCT:

Marvina TROKA psychologist

Briselda META lab specialist

Dhurata TROPLINI epidemiologist

Issues raised:

Training of the VCT staff is lacking:

There is a feeling that training for VCT staff is lacking or at least they are not involved. Continuous education programs should include HIV/AIDS issues and VCT staff. The training of trainers is pointed out by VCT staff to be able to perform their duties toward NGOs and health providers at urban and rural primary health centers.

Support to promote testing among key populations and support the outreach work with vulnerable communities:

There is lack of support and understanding of the outreach work and promotion of testing among key populations. While promotion activities at high schools, health centers and other public entities is welcomed by head of department, there is a lack of goodwill to support the work within vulnerable communities (outside VCT premises)

Involvement of partners and key officials:

There is a need of delegation of authority to have a better functioning of the VCT. Officials do not delegate and they do participate themselves in some technical meetings. The information is not shared and as such is not used by the staff.

Partnership established also should be known to the staff. The lack of such information makes difficulties to better use all the resources available and also increase the impact of the VCT.

Kits, reagent, IEC materials:

Tests have been provided when available. But there is a need for more kits, lab equipment. During the last year the IEC materials provided by IPH were limited. The budget line of the department of Health in Durres is limited to promotion department.

Issues identified:

The composition of the VCT is very good: Psychologist, lab specialist and epidemiologist. They have all the capacities to perform good services. They are eager to learn more, receive training and especially they requested a ToT for themselves to be able to train health providers in centers and NGOs provided services to general and key population.

There was a good knowledge of VCT staff regarding the community they serve but also the community they might need to reach to better map the situation in their region. They have collaboration with NGOs in their region. They seem to have very good access at public and private high schools of the city of Durres.

Their work was limited to the city and the surrounding and they stated the need to perform info sessions with youth and health providers in rural areas.

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