

Center for Public Health and Human Rights

Dear Advocate,

We are working to perform a review of all relevant programming for Transgendered Peoples, Lesbian and other women who have sex with women, and gay men and other men who have sex with men. We are aware of your important work in your country and were hoping that you could help us to learn more about the specifics of what is happening for sexual minorities.

As a group at the Center for Public Health and Human Rights at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (<http://www.jhsph.edu/humanrights>), we are collecting this important information for a report to be delivered to the World Bank as a call to action to increase funding for evidence-based and comprehensive HIV prevention programming for TG, WSW, and MSM. We recognize that HIV prevention programming for sexual minorities must address both individual and structural risk factors. Important components should include health care level interventions focusing on voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) centers, offer training and sensitization to reduce structural barriers to VCT for sexual minorities, and ensure that health care staff understands the specific health-related needs of sexual minorities. There is also a clear need to address the stigma and discrimination targeting sexual minorities in many resource-constrained settings.

If you have produced a report, or are aware of a well written report that describes the access to HIV prevention programs for sexual minorities. If there is no report, if you could briefly describe what kinds of programs you have developed and implemented in your country or region, it would be hugely appreciated. If there is a document that you, or others, have produced that gives a perspective on the history of HIV risk among sexual minorities, access to prevention, treatment and care programs, and human rights violations it would also be hugely appreciated. Reports and documents in all languages are welcome. We will clearly cite and reference any contributions made by you in the final document, unless you would prefer to remain anonymous.

We can learn so much from the important work that you have done, are currently doing, or are planning to do. We can also learn from the specific barriers that you have experienced in your country and how you have worked around these, if this has been at all possible. Again, all contributions will be clearly cited in the final report and the work of certain organizations will be highlighted as case examples of positive things that can be done even in difficult environments, but if you would prefer to remain anonymous then this will be respected.

We are relying on your participation and hope to hear from you.

Much thanks and in solidarity,

Stefan Baral MD MPH MBA

Center for Public Health and Human Rights Department of Epidemiology Johns Hopkins School of Public Health E7146, 615 N. Wolfe Street Baltimore, MD, USA, 21205 EMAIL - sbaral@jhsph.edu
<http://www.jhsph.edu/humanrights>

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