

Briefing Note

World Health Organization (WHO) / GTZ collaboration on Capacity Building for scaling up HIV responses

Background:

- WHO/GTZ collaboration aims to develop recipient country capacities to make better use of GFATM (and other large) grants for HIV/AIDS.
- Current collaboration is based on a first WHO/GTZ Grant Agreement over €4.2 million for the period 2003/04, covering two staff positions at WHO Headquarters in Geneva and a number of staff and operational activities in EURO, AFRO, EMRO.
- WHO/GTZ collaboration forms part of the larger *GTZ Backup Initiative* (overall budget of €30 million), designed to provide technical backup and bi- and multilateral support to countries, to improve utilization of Global Fund and other large grants.

Key Activities:

1. Develop local institutions in Africa and Central/Eastern Europe into *Knowledge Hubs* that can take on capacity building functions for HIV treatment, care and prevention, at national and regional level through training, networking, adaptation of guidelines and tools and direct technical assistance.
2. Complement in-country work by normative work (WHO HIV/AIDS Department and Family and Community Health Cluster). In particular, three toolkits have been developed: on HIV treatment and care, HIV testing and counseling and targeted interventions in sex work settings.

Current Status:

1. *Knowledge Hubs* in Croatia (HIV Surveillance), Ukraine (HIV Care and Treatment), Russian Federation (Harm Reduction), Sudan (HIV Program Development), Uganda and Burkina Faso (treatment, care, PMTCT and entry points) have been developed in partnership with many institutions. Training activities have started in all hubs during 2004.
2. *Normative work* concentrated on antiretroviral treatment, testing and counseling and interventions with vulnerable groups. Three toolkits were developed are now available online - the Antiretroviral (ARV) Toolkit: A public health approach for scaling up ARV treatment (www.who.int/hiv/toolkit/arv); the Toolkit for scaling up HIV Testing and Counselling services (www.who.int/hiv/toolkit/tc) and the Sex work tool kit for Targeted HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care in Sex Work Settings (www.who.int/hiv/toolkit/sw). The ARV toolkit is also available as CD-ROM and in hardcopy.

Analysis and Outlook:

- This project and hence GTZ enjoys high visibility in WHO, and it currently forms the core of our capacity building work. It contributes importantly to the WHO/UNAIDS "3by5" Initiative, aiming to bring three million people with HIV on treatment by December 2005.
- The project is at the end of its second year. A second WHO/GTZ Financial Agreement for another two years will be signed in November 2004 and will focus more on integration of HIV/AIDS into sexual health and adolescent and gender mainstreaming and on strengthening the further development of the Knowledge Hubs in Africa (Sudan, Uganda, Burkina Faso), and on linking them with GTZ country work.

