Sensitization Meeting to Reduce Stigma & Discrimination of Key Population

GF-NFM-MSM/TG intervention of Light House supported by icdd,b, organized a total of 12 district level sensitization meeting in May 2017 in order to reduce stigma and discrimination against the key population where participated 181 stakeholders like Law Enforcement Agency (Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police), Civil Surgeon, Lawyers, academicians, Journalists, Local Elected Bodies, Health Service Providers, Religious Leaders, Human Rights Activists, etc. The meeting helped in expanding referral linkage with the GO and NGO facilities and found most of the organization showed interest about how they can provide support to HIV program beneficiaries.

Quarterly coordination meeting with panel lawyer and judges:

Under the support of USAID’s Justice for All program, Pabna, Light House and District Legal Aid Office have organized a coordination meeting with the Panel Lawyers and Judges in May 2017 where 44 participated. Honorable District & Session Judge, Mr. Nuruzzaman chaired meeting and his speech added with the legal aid services of Bangladesh Government and how it can be improved further for the helpless. He spoke about the challenges of panel lawyers what they are facing now and besides he also expressed his satisfaction on the support of USAID through Light House which improved case referral and DLAC’s capacity.

Meetings with DIC Advisory Committee for creating an enabling environment:

DIC Advisory committee (DAC), comprising seven members, was formulated for creating an environment for supporting the project activities. The committee included the local elites, businessman, journalist and house owners, law enforcement agency representatives and other members. The DAC member’s meet once a quarter at DIC level to discuss DIC progresses as well to resolve project implementation challenges if there is any. During May 2017, a total of 13 DAC meetings took place along with 127 participants.

Outcome of DAC meetings: Few people entered into the Dinajpur Sub-DIC right after 12am on 18th May, 2017 by showing threat that they saw a female get entered into the DIC. They expressed physical checking, though they didn’t found any female inside the DIC. In the next morning, DIC termed an urgent DAC meeting where raised the issue. The DAC members identified the people who did it and threaten to handover to law enforcement agencies further if they try to create any disturbance to the project activities.

Inauguration of Counseling Sessions inside Prison

Under IRSPOT project of Light House, supported by GIZ, arranged counseling sessions inside the prison (Bogra District Jail), for the 24 convicted prisoners who have the history of use drugs attended, the counseling session inaugurated by the Jail Super, Bogra District Jail in May 2017. The 24 selected prisoners divided in two groups consist of 12 in each who will receive a total of six counseling session.

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Awareness Rising through Miking Campaign on Government Legal aid Services
Under the support of USAID’s Justice for All, Bogra project, Light House along with Union and Upazila Legal Aid Committees have organized miking campaign part of legal aid service promotional of Bangladesh Government. The main objective of this promotional was to encourage people to have legal advice and support from the panel lawyers and courts, etc. as relevant to their crisis. During miking campaign, relevant IEC-BCC materials (leaflets, brochures, posters, stickers, etc.) were also distributed among the people and gummed in the visible public places.

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