



The link between GBV and HIV infections

WORLD AIDS Day (WAD) celebrated on the first of December every year since 1988 aims to increase awareness of the disease, fight the stigma associated with it, improve HIV education, and mobilize resources for the global response to the epidemic. The commemoration coincides with the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence campaign, no coincidence as the links between GBV and HIV/AIDS are very clear.

On a global scale, but also in Bangladesh HIV is increasingly impacting adolescent girls and young women. They are vulnerable owing to violence, child marriage, lack of comprehensive sexuality education, inability to negotiate safe sex, and lack of access to sexual and reproductive health services – including condoms, HIV/STI testing and counselling, and treatment.

Although the HIV prevalence in Bangladesh is low, still under 0.1%, the demographics of Bangladesh present considerable challenges to the HIV prevention program. Bangladesh is a densely populated country, with enduring poverty, low levels of education, gender inequality and high levels of cross border travel. In Asia Pacific between 2005 and 2013, new infections declined by 6%. But in Bangladesh the estimated new infections increased by 25% from 2001 to 2012 and the reported new infections in Bangladesh increased by about 1.5 times over the past 5 years. The estimated number of people living with HIV in Bangladesh is 9500. However only approximately one-third of these people have been diagnosed as living with HIV and

only 1150 people are enrolled in care. Bangladesh provides free anti-retroviral treatment to all who need it. In order for the treatment opportunities to really have an impact it is however paramount for people to know their HIV status. Bangladesh still has very limited health facilities which

information and services and owning their sexual health is crucial. Concerted efforts are needed to change these gender norms and to make communities safe and supportive for young women and girls.

We need to empower adolescent and young people

prevent and respond to violence against women and girls must also include HIV response. Prevention, screening and access to health, social services and post-exposure prophylaxis as well as diagnosis and treatment need to be part and parcel of health sector response to GBV. We also need to roll back punitive laws and policies that promote stigma and discrimination and disempower people from accessing services

The Sustainable Development Goals call on us to leave no one behind. Investment is needed in local data and services to ensure that we reach the most vulnerable. We must invest in the holistic development of adolescents through education, health, employment and psychological well-being. We must ensure people in humanitarian crises, conflict and other emergency situations have access to an effective package of sexual and reproductive health services, including for prevention and treatment of HIV and STIs. We must intensify programming with key populations to reduce their HIV burden and protect the whole community.

UNFPA continues to support governments and community organizations to strengthen integrated maternal and child health services, as well as community-led responses. We support the human rights of key populations to live free of violence, stigma and discrimination and to freely access services in order to protect their health, the health of their sexual partners and dependents, and ultimately, of the whole community.

By focusing on what works, and by working together, we can end AIDS by 2030.

Source: UNFPA



offer testing and counselling for HIV. HIV testing and counselling therefore needs to be upgraded and integrated into mixed models of community-based testing, this is possible by linking it to sexual and reproductive health services.

About a third of newly diagnosed cases in 2014 affected women and in 10 percent of new cases the diagnosed person was between the ages of 19 and 24. The high number of external and internal migrants and the low level of accurate knowledge, especially young people have about HIV are contributing risk factors in Bangladesh. Addressing restrictive social norms that prevent women and girls from accessing sexual and reproductive health

with knowledge; only 13% of females and 23% of males between 15 and 24 correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission in Bangladesh. Based on the National Strategic Plan we know that Most At Risk Adolescents (MARA) are one of the key vulnerable populations for getting infected with HIV.

Responding to HIV/AIDS also needs to address gender-based violence. Vulnerability to HIV is intertwined with GBV and therefore requires integrated actions. The rate of GBV in Bangladesh is high, as we know from a survey on violence against women from 2011. Actions to



says Sakina Sultana from CARE BANGLADESH, Acting Team Leader, Global Fund, HIV/AIDS Program.

WORKING for CARE BANGLADESH for the last eight years, Sakina Sultana sounds very enthusiastic talking about the current situation and hurdles that Bangladeshi women face in terms of the awareness of HIV/AIDS.

HIV rates in Bangladesh are low, under 0.1%, however certain population groups, such as people who inject drugs (PWID) are more at risk of HIV infection. "FWID (females who inject drugs) are usually viewed as the most vulnerable, as they are at risk of GBV and HIV. That is they are usually the last to be provided with the drug in a group of drug users sharing needles," says Sakina. The prevalence of AIDS is controlled and confined in Bangladesh making the number of HIV positive individuals low but not decreasing. "Donors seem uninterested in providing further funds for this reason", says Sakina.

Women become victims of gender based violence and inadvertently get infected with HIV for a number of reasons. Often most FWID will resort to sexual acts, unprotected in exchange for drugs or money to buy them. Many men will even inject women with drugs in order to coerce them into having sex. This often makes them victims of gang rapes and other forms of physical assault. Sometimes it is their own intimate partners who force them to have sex with others for the aforementioned reasons. Most female PWIDs are also victims of gender based violence. The lack of funds has led to a lot of downsizing and closing down of PWIDS centres around the country and currently there are only two such centres for FWID.

"Society stigmatizes and alienates drug users and if the user is a woman, the effects are multiplied that only leads them to relapse again. This is a vicious cycle." Says Sakina disappointingly. Although Bangladesh's prevalence is not something

"Prevention is better than treatment",

to be worried about, the fact that it is still present is a matter of concern for those who work closely on these issues. Due to lack of funding, HIV screening is also another factor amongst female external migrants. "Our neighbouring countries have a higher prevalence rate and there is a constant flow of external migrants from Bangladesh. As HIV screening is an ethical issue, it cannot be done without the consent of the individual and the social stigma related to the disease makes the whole process complicated," says Sakina. Women make up a significant portion of the cross-border mobile population. The lack of necessary legal documents or proper education makes them easier to manipulate. Many will allow them to cross borders in exchange for sexual favours and reluctance has more so than often resulted in gender based violence.

Projects such as 'Emphasis' that work in cooperation with local NGOs, India, Nepal work on two mobility routes between Bangladesh-India and Nepal-India by delivering focused interventions at source, transit and destination points. A Regional Secretariat is based in Nepal to provide overall program direction and day to day oversight of country level program teams in Bangladesh. The project has yielded significant results supporting the importance of screening but funding is limited to make any big changes at present.

Targeted intervention to support families of drug users or the users themselves are insufficient in halting HIV infection rates. What Bangladesh needs is comprehensive programming that focuses on high risk groups, as well as the general population especially adolescents. "We are all aware of what HIV/AIDS is but little is being done to teach the masses about HIV infection and prevention."

Written by Supriti Sarkar

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Special Security Force
 Prime Minister's Office
 Tejgaon, Dhaka

Invitation for Open Tender

1.	Ministry/Division	Prime Minister's Office.
2.	Agency	Special Security Force.
3.	Procurement entity name	Deputy Director (P&P), SSF.
4.	Source of funds	Revenue of GOB of Financial Year 2015-16.
5.	Tender package No.	658/2/P&P-69 (Pistol Holster) and 662/1/P&P-105 (Mobile Phone).
6.	Tender name	Procurement of Pistol Holster and Mobile Phone with all standard accessories.
7.	Brief description of works	
	Ser	Description of the items
	a.	Procurement of Pistol Holster with all standard accessories (Details are in the schedule)-Re-Tender
	b.	Procurement of Mobile Phone with all standard accessories
8.	Time of work	June 2016.
9.	Eligibility of tenderers	Must be principal dealer/supplier having min 05 years of experience of these kinds of supply/maintenance.
10.	Amount of tender security	Earnest money (refundable) in the form of Pay Order or Bank Draft or Irrecoverable Bank Guarantee in the name of DG SSF.
11.	Name and address of the office(s) selling tender document	Deputy Director (P&P), Room No. 146, ICC Block, Special Security Force, Prime Minister's Office, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215. Phone: 88-02-9112082, Fax: 88-02-9143406
12.	Name and address of the office(s) receiving tenders	Gate No. 4, Prime Minister's Office, Nakhalpara (Near Old MP Hostel), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
13.	Name and address of the office(s) opening tenders	Deputy Director (P&P), Room No. 146, ICC Block, Special Security Force, Prime Minister's Office, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
14.	Last date and time for selling tender document	14 December 2015 up to 1200 hrs.
15.	Last date and time for submission of tender	15 December 2015, 1100 hours local time. Tenderers and authorized representatives are allowed to attend. Tender will be opened at 1115 hours in the same date.
16.	Special instruction	a. All other instructions are described in the tender documents. b. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject whole or part of any tender/offer.

Tanbhir Ahmed
 Deputy Director (P&P)
 For Director General

GD-3744

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“বিবেকের তীক্ষ্ণ দংশন সহ্য করতে না পেরেই তারাক্ষরের ১৯৭১ বইটি লেখা, পড়তে শুরু করলে শেষ না করে থামা যাবে না।”
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 কুষ্টিয়া: বইমেলা (০১৭১১ ৫৭৫৬০৬)।
 চট্টগ্রাম: বাতিঘর (০১৭১৩০৩৪৪৪), প্রথমা (০১৭১১৬৪৯৪২২)

Dhaka South City Corporation
 Office of the Executive Engineer
 Mechanical Division, Dhalpur, Dhaka
 www.dhakasouthcity.gov.bd

Keep Your City Clean

Tender Notice

1.	Ministry/Division	Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives/Local Govt. Division.		
2.	Agency	Dhaka South City Corporation.		
3.	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division.		
4.	Procurement entity code	Not used at present.		
5.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.		
6.	Invitation for	Works.		
7.	Invitation Ref. No.	46.207.007.09.25.007.2015		
8.	Date	29/11/2015		
KEY INFORMATION				
9.	Procuring method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
10.	Budget and source of fund	DSCC Own Fund.		
11.	Development partner	N/A.		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
12.	Tender publication date	30/11/2015.		
13.	Tender last selling date	29/12/2015.		
14.	Tender closing date and time	30/12/2015, Time: 12:00		
15.	Tender opening date and time	30/12/2015, Time: 1:00		
16.	Name & address of the office(s)			
	Selling tender documents (principal)	i) Accounts Department of Dhaka South City Corporation, Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka-1000, ii) Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, 14 No. Outfall, Dhalpur, Dhaka-1203.		
	Selling tender documents (others)	i) Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka, ii) Deputy Commissioner, Dhaka, iii) Office of the Executive Engineer, Zone-1 to 5/P&D/Electrical, DSCC.		
	Receiving tender documents	Central Tender Box, Bank Floor, Nagar Bhaban, and Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, Dhalpur, Dhaka-1203.		
	Opening tender documents	Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, 14 No. Outfall, Dhalpur, Dhaka-1203.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
17.	Description	Price of tender documents	Tender security	Completion time
	Appointment of Annual Contractor for work of bituminous carpeting by asphalt plant of different roads of Dhaka South City Corporation (Package No. 2) for the period of one year	5,000/-	50,00,000/- (fifty lac)	One year.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
18.	Name, designation & address of office inviting tender	Md. Khairul Baker, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, DSCC, 14 No. Outfall, Dhalpur, Dhaka-1203. Phone: 7544732 (Off.) Fax: 7545499		
KEY INFORMATION				
19.	Eligibility of tenderers (terms & conditions)	a) The eligibility of tenderers would be as per The Public Procurement Act-2006, The Public Procurement Rules-2008 and the terms & conditions in the tender documents. b) The tender security money of Tk. 50,00,000/- (fifty lac) payable to "Mayor" Dhaka South City Corporation in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee from any schedule bank of Bangladesh along with the tender. c) The selected contractor must submit at least 10% of the contract value as performance guarantee. The performance guarantee will be refunded after work completion as per PPR-2008. d) The tenderers need to submit the attested photocopy of their up-to-date trade license, Income Tax, VAT and registration certificate along with the tender. The tenderers must sign all the pages of tender documents. e) All necessary information regarding tender may be collected from the office of the undersigned during office hour. f) Tenderers or their authorized representative may attend at the time of opening of tender. g) Tender documents can be collected by submitting the price of tender document through chalan to Current A/C 201783, Sonali Bank Ltd., Nagar Bhaban Branch, DSCC. h) If for due reason the office remain closed on last receiving date, the tender documents will be received on the next working day. i) The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders without assigning any reason.		

Md. Khairul Baker
 Executive Engineer
 Mechanical Division
 Dhaka South City Corporation
 Tel: 7544732

DSCC/PRD/84/15-16
 GD-3740