

Raport on focus groups with stakeholders who work with young migrants

Helsinki June 2014

Respondents

We interviewed people with extensive experience in working with migrants from very different perspectives. We had a lawyer, a therapist addiction, psychologist and persons engaged in the HIV prevention activities and implementing harm reduction programs for people offering sexual services.

Date of focus group was conducted: 10 April 2014

We have invited 10 experts from different
ngo:

Helsinki Foundation

Lambda Warsaw

Foundation of Harm Reduction

Foundation of Best Practices

The Society for Assistance to Youth

Social AIDS Committee

Association „Monar”

Brief feedback on focus group guide – what worked well and what should be improved

The guide was working well. The only problem in our case might be definition of migrant status.

For the project purpose might be useful to narrow down, which group of migrants we want to focus on:

Temporary workers

Foreign students

Asylum seekers

Permanent residents

Legal? Illegal migrants?

Target group

- The environment of migrants in Poland is very diverse. Starting from temporary migrants-seasonal workers, the asylum seekers, to the migrants assimilated by years of residence in Poland and foreign students.
- All of these groups need the various methods and prevention work channels.

Brief results of the focus group: what are the migrant youth' needs in HIV and AI prevention programs? Which needs are already covered by existing programs? Which needs are not covered? What kind of prevention work is needed? Which stakeholders could be involved into development and implementation of HIV and AI prevention programs?

- Needs of the young migrants are varied as much as the group is. They need a tailored offer. Project might be built based on existing offer that is very limited to specific groups of migrants like asylum seekers, and is not part of the systemic activity, but usually initiated by ngo.
- Often basic training on HIV prevention and sexual health is needed depending on cultural background of migrants.

Resources

- As for the Polish resources to prevention work with young migrants, we have a group of professionals experienced in this field, but there is no systemic solutions.
- The prevention activities are run by NGOs if they manage to acquire the necessary funds to finance such activities from the state budget.

Barriers

Addition barrier to a lack of an established, decent prevention system, is a absence of data on the situation of migrants in Poland. Some ethnic groups (eg Vietnamese) are very little recognized in the context of risky behaviours probability.

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Thank you!