

Training in Second Generation HIV/AIDS Surveillance – New Training Courses in 2005

In September 2003, the Andrija Stampar School of Public Health became the Knowledge Hub for Training in Second Generation HIV/AIDS Surveillance through the framework of the WHO Project Strengthening Country Capacity to Utilise HIV/AIDS Funds and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit - GTZ Backup Initiative.

The goal of this programme is to support countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and Newly Independent States (NIS) in the optimal access to and use of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and other large resources through supporting the development of local technical capacity in launching large-scale and urgent responses to HIV/AIDS. Since June 2004, the Knowledge Hub has been providing training courses in the second generation HIV/AIDS surveillance.

The main aim of the training programme is to help participants to increase knowledge and skills in conducting HIV/AIDS and STI surveillance and to achieve greater cost-effectiveness and development of better targeted HIV prevention and control programmes in the region.

The following training modules in the second generation HIV/AIDS surveillance were organised in 2004 at the Knowledge Hub:

- I Introduction to 2nd generation HIV/AIDS surveillance
- II Behavioural surveillance
- III Surveillance of sexually transmitted infections
- IV Biological/Serosurveillance
- V Surveillance in hard to reach populations

A total of 81 participants from 14 countries attended training courses from June - November 2004.



The Knowledge Hub is based at the Andrija Stampar School of Public Health, which is a part of the School of Medicine, University of Zagreb.

A number of institutions have been involved in development of training modules and in lecturing, such as

- Hamburg University of Applied Sciences
- University of California, San Francisco
- Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre, Health Protection Agency, UK;
- WHO Regional Office for Europe;
- WHO Headquarters;
- Croatian Institute for Public Health and UNDP Office in Croatia.

Each module lasts 5 days.

Training is based on interactive methods and 30-50% of time is spent on practical exercises, case studies and skills development.

The module on HIV/AIDS surveillance in hard to reach populations also includes a field trip to outreach surveillance programmes for commercial sex workers, injecting drugs users and men who have sex with men in Croatia.



The training programme is built upon the following learning principles:

- **Interactive methods** (group work, case studies, exercises) will be used to encourage full participation
- Participants will be **encouraged to reflect** upon and apply their learning to their own country settings
- Participants will be **encouraged to share** their experiences with others
- Ample opportunities for **small group project work** to enhance learning
- **Ongoing evaluation** of teaching and learning

Successes and Challenges

We put a key emphasis on extensive evaluation of the training programme as this helps us to tailor the content areas so that they meet the needs of participants. Therefore, a lot of attention is put on meeting the needs and expectations of participants in relation to their activities in HIV/AIDS surveillance.

Evaluation of the training modules during 2004 showed that lectures and exercises were of high quality, well-prepared and well-structured. Participants said they benefited from the training programme and that the knowledge learnt was useful for their expanding their work on surveillance. Participants receive a diploma that is accredited by the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) with 3 points.

Follow-up: This is done 6 months after each training course by a structured questionnaire that will be sent by e-mail. The main aim of this is to find out whether participants were able to implement the knowledge and skills learnt and whether they need technical support from the staff of the training programme.

Registration:

Booking can be made via e-mail: training@snz.hr, or Fax: + 385 1 290 37 52

All accepted applicants will receive a pre-course form which should be completed and returned 2 weeks before the start of the module they have registered for.



Introduction to Second Generation HIV/AIDS Surveillance

02-06 May 2005

This module addresses the key issues in second generation HIV/AIDS surveillance such as components of HIV/AIDS surveillance systems and their relevance for low-level and concentrated HIV/AIDS epidemics. It also provides an overview of the key principles in the public health surveillance and main approaches to surveillance data collection, analysis and dissemination.

Monitoring and Evaluation of National HIV/AIDS Response

04-08 July 2005

This course will provide participants with practical guidance on how to develop an overall system that can provide an insight into the status and effectiveness of the national HIV/AIDS programs. Besides highlighting the main elements of use of surveillance data for M&E, the course will provide training on other M&E components such as: overall system designing, resource tracking, program activity monitoring, monitoring and assessing coverage with services

Surveillance of HIV/AIDS in Hard to Reach Populations

10-16 October 2005

The main content areas of this module are focused around setting up surveillance systems in the subpopulations that are most affected with HIV/AIDS in concentrated epidemics, such as commercial sex workers, men who have sex with men and injecting drug users. Participants will also learn how to design targeted surveys in hard to reach populations by using probability and non-probability sampling methods and which data collection instruments to use for that purpose. Other issues addressed include data interpretation and the linkages between surveillance systems and development of HIV/AIDS prevention and control programmes

The staff of the “Andrija Štampar” School of Public Health will assist you only with the booking of the rooms. Payment of hotel rates will be arranged directly with the hotels.

Cancellations:

A 10% administration fee will be levied for cancellations made up to two weeks prior to the start of a module. Cancellations thereafter will be liable to the loss of the full participation fee. Notice of cancellation must be given in writing by letter or fax.

Per diem rate (UN system):

The per diem rate for Zagreb is currently USD 205 per day. Minimum amount needed for accommodation and meals for 5 days in Zagreb is around USD 380.

Registration fee:

The participation fee is 520 EUR per module. The participation fee includes tuition, a comprehensive set of course notes, 5 buffet lunches (1 per day) and 5 coffee breaks (1 per day). The participation fee does not include accommodation and travel expenses. Participants are expected to cover their accommodation and travel expenses themselves. Please note that all fees must be received before the module start date.

Contact us:

Training in 2nd Generation Surveillance of HIV/AIDS for the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia
“Andrija Štampar” School of Public Health
Rockefellerova 4
10000 Zagreb
Croatia



Accommodation:

To assist you with your accommodation arrangements, the staff of the “Andrija Štampar” School of Public Health, Zagreb Croatia offers to book you rooms (subject to availability) in one of the following three hotels in the centre of Zagreb:

Hotel Sheraton

Single room 130 - 170 EUR per day, double room 130- 170 EUR per day, prices do not include breakfast. Price of breakfast is 18 EUR.

Hotel Dubrovnik

Single room 110 EUR per night, double room 150 EUR per night, prices include breakfast.

Hotel Jadran

Single room 68 EUR per night, double room 95 EUR per night, prices include breakfast.

Tel: + 385 1 290 25 75
Fax: + 385 1 290 37 52
Email: training@snz.hr

2005 training courses:

- 1) **Introduction to Second Generation HIV/AIDS Surveillance**
02-06 May 2005
- 2) **Monitoring and Evaluation of National HIV/AIDS response**
04-08 July 2005
- 3) **Module on HIV/AIDS Surveillance in Hard to Reach Populations**
10-16 October 2005
- 4) **Surveillance of Sexually Transmitted Infections**
17-21 October 2005
- 5) **Biological / Serosurveillance**
14-20 November 2005