**PROJECT LESSONS-LEARNED REPORT**

Total length of report: 2-3 pages.

 Please refer to the [Deliverable Description](http://content.undp.org/go/prescriptive/Project-Management---Prescriptive-Content-Documents/download/?d_id=1358999) for more information on the purpose and use of this report

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| **Project Title:** | HEALTH AND HIV AND AIDS DEVELOPMENT |
| **Country:** | BOTSWANA |
| **Related CPAP Outcome** | By 2016 institutions at all levels capacitated to effectively respond to HIV and AIDS and deliver preventative and curative health services |
| **Project Description and Key Lessons-Learned** |
| **Brief description of context** | Combating discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity for the LGBTI and enhance access to services. The main objective of this focus area is to raise awareness to both the LGBTI and the community at large about all matters affecting the LGBTI community. Gay men and lesbians have higher rates of mental health disorders and HIV infection than the rest of the population. They also have higher rates of obesity, smoking and unsafe alcohol and drug use, and are more likely to self-harm. These conditions develop in response to different scenarios including: Coming out’, only to be rejected by family members and friends; being bullied or taunted by schoolmates on a daily basis; homophobic jokes or harassment in the workplace; being threatened or bashed when out on the street; hiding part of yourself in social situations for fear of being rejected or marginalized; feeling guilt and shame about your sexuality in the face of negative messages being delivered by the society around you.Research suggests that gay men and lesbians have reduced access to medical care compared to heterosexuals. Many health services claim that they ‘treat everyone the same’, but this usually means that they treat everyone as heterosexual. Gay and lesbian people do not need special medical treatment, but they do need treatment that is fair and appropriate.  |
| **Brief description of project**  | The project is aimed at increasing awareness to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity for the LGBTI and enhance access to services. The project support a local CSO (LEGABIBO) to develop IEC materials and carry out community dialogues to raise awareness on human rights of people with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity.  |
| **Key project successes** | The project has managed to achieve its objectives. Training of different departments on HIV, Stigma and discrimination for the LGBTI was done. The project also identified a need for a drop-in centre and bought clinic equipment to be used for basic medical services for LGBTI community who feels safe at the centre. The IEC materials helped in increased visibility of the CSO as well as dissemination of knowledge.  |
| **Project shortcomings and solutions** | The CSO was advanced with funds to carry out agreed activities. They took long to report on the utilization of the funds which went well outside the required reporting timelines. UNDP PMSU carried out support visit and assisted them in developing financial systems and helped with preparation of reports. That worked as the reports were finally submitted. Capacity building offered was used to improve the systems for future reporting. office  |
| **Lessons learned** | There is a need to carry out an assessment at the beginning of a collaboration to ensure that IP risk is determined and mitigating actions are put in place.  |
| **Follow-up Actions** | The project will be continued in 2017. Issues of attitudes fuelling stigma and discrimination takes time, as such continued engagement is important.  |

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| **Project Information** |
| **Award ID:** | 00097462 |
| **CO Focal Points:** | Mavis Bengtsson. Mavis.bengtsson@undp.org  |
| **Partners:** | LEGABIBO |
| **Project resources:** | Annual report available |
| **Report prepared by:** | William Bapati, Programme Specialist – HIV/AIDS, Gender, Health and Human Rights  |
| **Date:** | 20 September 2017 |