



SHORT COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT

HIV AND MOST-AT-RISK-POPULATIONS (MARPs)

From October 18 to 29, 2010, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), in collaboration with the University of Oslo, will conduct a two-week short course on HIV and vulnerable population groups. The course will focus on most-at-risk populations (MARPs), such as men who have sex with men (MSM) and injecting drug users (IDU), and the challenges posed by HIV in these groups across African settings.

Vulnerability for HIV is substantially higher in some specific population groups than in the general population. There is limited information available about some of these groups and the circumstances that put them at risk, and appropriate prevention interventions are often lacking. This represents important challenges within these groups as well as for the overall HIV epidemic.

TIME AND PLACE

October 18 – 29, 2010, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

GOAL

The goal of this two-week course is to provide participants with insights into and knowledge about the lives and circumstances of MSM and IDU in Africa, the challenges posed by HIV among them, and approaches to intervention strategies for HIV prevention and care.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The course is designed for:

- Those working on HIV-related issues (e.g. HIV-related prevention, clinical care, policy development, advocacy, research, teaching, training).
- Students in relevant programs, such as public health, medicine, nursing, anthropology, sociology, etc.

Persons interested in research or interventions in HIV-vulnerable population groups are particularly encouraged to apply.

ELIGIBILITY

The course is open to applicants from throughout Africa. A bachelor's degree or higher in a relevant field is a prerequisite, but persons with a diploma may be considered in cases where they have particularly relevant experience or work tasks.

COURSE OUTLINE

The course will include the following topics:

- Majorities, minorities and diversities
- Stigma and discrimination
- Injecting drug use circumstances, practices, risks and vulnerabilities
- Sex, sexualities and cultures
- Same sex attractions, practices, risks and vulnerabilities
- Existing knowledge about MSM, IDU, and their HIV-related challenges in Africa
- Research on MSM, IDU, and their HIV-related challenges in Africa
- Approaches to HIV programming that includes and involves MSM and IDU

The course will consist of a mix of lectures, discussions, group work and individual studies. *Course language:* English.

COURSE FEE

USD 1250.

The course fee includes tuition, learning materials, break time refreshments and lunches.

Simple accommodation can be arranged in Dar es Salaam, but participants are free to arrange alternative accommodation at their own expense.

The course fee does not include travel costs to and from Dar es Salaam.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply for course participation, please send an application including your contact details and the following:

- Information about your age, sex, nationality, academic qualifications, current position and employer (if any), and previous work experience.
- A short statement of purpose indicating why you are applying for the course.

Applications will be processed in the order they are received. The final application deadline is Sept 1, 2010.

Applications can be sent by e-mail (preferred) or by post:

E-mail: marpscource@gmail.com

Post: MARPs Short Course Director, P.O. Box 65015, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

Participants are expected to support themselves either directly or through sponsorship by their own institutions or funding agencies.

However, partial or full sponsorship may be provided for a limited number of applicants who are not in a position to support themselves.

Those who want to be considered for sponsorship should indicate so when applying for participation.

Please indicate what type of support you are applying for:

1. Exemption of course fee
2. Travel costs (please indicate travel route and cost)
3. Any other costs (please explain)