ALBANIAN CENTER FOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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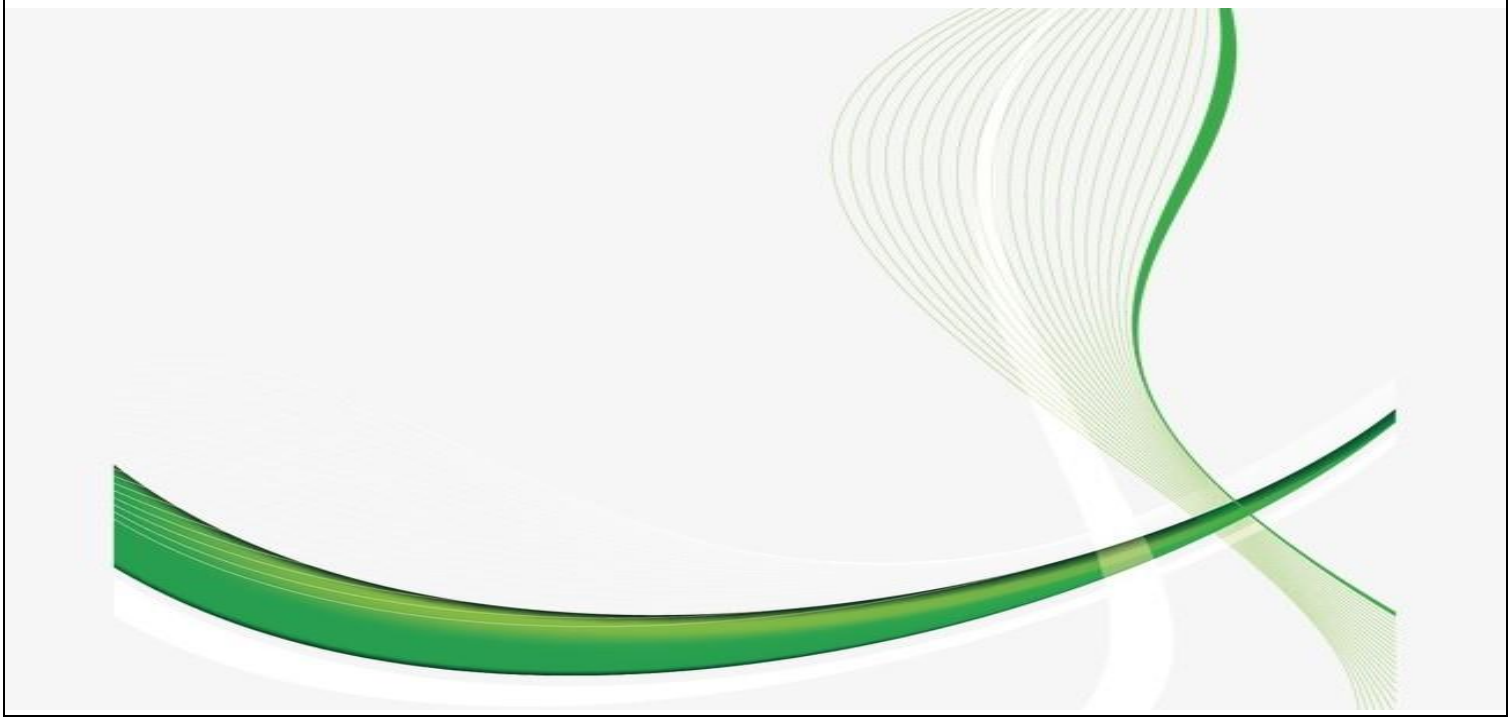
ANNUAL REPORT 2017



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Title: For a gender sensitive & stigma free HIV/AIDS response towards key population – (funded by) IPPF

➢ Outcomes of Activities

- 2154 HIV/AIDS related services were provided in 2017 through static clinics, mobile and outreach work.
- 100 people from key population are reached out with positive messages on SRH and HIV and information on services.
- 25 people have improved their knowledge and are equipped through the training with knowledge and skills on issues related to HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, sexual orientation and discrimination towards vulnerable groups and key populations.
- A core team of 25 people, composed of staff of the public health directory of Vlora, outreach workers, service providers and civic society representatives and peer educators, is established to deliver the training on the HIV/AIDS topics.

Title: Let's challenge abortion stigma and take actions – (funded by) IPPF

➢ Outcomes of Activities

- A video message titled "Free from reproductive coercion" has been developed by a team composed of staff, two communication experts and two women, activists of the project. It was published/promoted via social media and the web of ACPD;

- 600 people were reached as result of video promotion (through social media, educational activities).

- 32 young women and men, supporters of women who have had abortions, including partners, family, and friends, as well as abortion advocates were gathered in one day workshop to discuss on the abortion stigma and its impact in women's live and its burden to their health.

- One two day training with 20 heath care providers (gynaecologist, midwifes, general practitioners and nurses) on safe, legal and free of stigma, abortion services was carried out on 19th and 20th of March in Vora (surrounding area of Tirana). The evaluation showed the attitudes of participants toward abortion were improved.

- On the occasion of Global Day for Safe and Legal Abortion a big awareness campaign was carried out by ACPD staff and activists in collaboration with key partners' representatives. 500 people of all ages were reached with messages (through direct communication and/or social media) to support the right of women for a free reproductive life and to respect their right to decide freely over their own bodies.

- 1048 abortion related services (without including 530 referrals) were provided by ACPD clinics including static, mobile clinics and community based services.

- Four FGD were conducted with women, men and service providers involved with the project. The findings of the FG indicated how the participants positively changed their attitudes toward abortion.

- Seven case studies were developed with participation of project beneficiaries featuring the stories of women and young girls who have gone through the experience of abortion. The stories emphasize the importance of free of stigma abortion service have to the women's lives and directly appeal to service providers , communities to respect to women decisions on their bodies and their future.

Title: For a right to e free, dignified and safe reproductive life – (funded by) IPPF

➢ Outcomes of activities

- Three day training on the framing manual with focus on CSE, abortion, framing guidance was carried out. As a result of the training: -Participants strengthened their knowledge and skills related to an effective communication and shaping influential narratives on SRH. - They build skills to respond to the SRH opposition with arguments and based on a moral framing which creates a sense of moral urgency. - ACPD staff feels very enthusiastic and has already started to use the reframing language through combining it with existing terms and reinforcing the new messages on abortion, CSE and women's rights (under this project and others educational and informative sessions, meetings with partners, campaigns etc). Physical-Sexual Literacy and Sexual-Emotional Intelligence; Women (and men) must be free to decide to not move through a full pregnancy. were the phrases agreed to be used from CSE and abortion.

- One day workshop was carried out with 20 key stakeholders of ACPD to ensure their support to the new frame. Our partners such as Youth Voice network (a network composed of 15 youth and rights organizations supported by UNFPA) on the occasion of international days have already started to use some of the new phrases.

- 6000 people of all ages were reached with messages (through direct communication and/or social media) related to CSE and abortion using the new frame. Activists of ACPD called to parents, teachers, community members, politicians and religious leaders to end the reproductive coercion and acknowledge and support the need of young people for physical–sexual literacy and emotional-social intelligence.

- In conclusion from the FG we can say the framed messages effectively shift how people think about CSE and abortion equality. At the end all participants agreed that the message are relevant to the Albanian context, they appeal to the mind and heart of the public and target audience; they are memorable; if the new terms are used increasingly without replacing immediately the old terms they can be absorbed and acceptable; above the other participants stated that the new terms can communicate our moral values in relation to abortion and CSE and can really influence and shape influential narratives.

- All recommendations from the FG are being used to frame messages to contextualizing those in Albanian reality and shape narratives of SRH during the ACPD work.

- The new terms are being used in parallel with the old frames offering to our recipients a new perspective of thinking about the issues.

- 5050 people signed this petition in the areas of Tirana, Vlora and Shkodra where it was promoted showing their support towards the ACPD work and its moral arguments. Simultaneously they together reinforced the advocacy message addressed to the decision-makers for provision of free of stigma and discrimination services. The petition will be used during the ACPD advocacy initiatives (2017) in support of provision of such services.

- 1200 people were reached out with these videos through FB and during promotional activities. A truly positive feedback was given by young people, teachers, parents and community members who have been reflecting in the new frames after seeing the videos. Their opinions in general was that CSE should be provided in formal education, parents should be supportive for the health and the wellbeing of young people; they agreed that women and men are entitled to the right to move or not throughout a full pregnancy and any other interference should be considered as meddling at the intimacy and the women/men/couples/family life. Another positive element about the videos dissemination was that amongst the audience (during promotional activities) there some people were against the CSE and abortion but after seeing the videos that changed their opinion and the attitudes in a positive way.

Title: Empowerment of adolescents to act on their right in rural areas of Tirana and Shkodra – (funded by) Save the Children

- **Outcomes of Activities**

  - 60 teachers were trained on Children's Rights and Human Trafficking and how to deliver the information to their pupils.

  - 400 young students of 9 - years schools of rural areas in Tirana and Shkodra participated in the forum discussions.

  - 200 young Students of 9 - years schools of rural areas in Tirana and Shkodra were reached with information on Children's rights and human trafficking during the information sessions organized by already trained teachers.

Title: Integrating SRHR and ICPD within national 2030 Agenda priorities – (funded by) IPPF

- **Outcomes of activities**

  - 20 participants in the round table organised with NGOs and representatives from Ministry of Health , Ministry of Education, Institute of Public Health, Institute of Statistics which was followed with advocacy for the establishment of a dedicated structure within the MoH on sexual and reproductive health, to offer universal access to STI and particularly HIV testing, facilitate access to early diagnosis and provision of counselling services.

  - Four meetings with the specific departments in the line ministries and INSTAT on the steps they have made in reference to identification of indicators that result as gaps and underline the importance of identification of SRHR indicators on the basis of the New strategy 2017-2021.

  - ACPD staff together with representatives from partner organizations had some informal meetings with representatives from Ministry of Health and Social Protection Advocacy activities organized with the support of UN agencies and other CSOs led to the:
    • Establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee on SDGs, chaired by the Deputy PM with all relevant ministries and partners on board. The 1st meeting took place in May 2017.
    • A set of 21 governance indicators along with targets, baselines and sources of data were integrated into the NSDI 2015-2020.
    • A baseline report, collecting available data against the SDG indicators and a National Action Plan that outlines how Albania intends to pursue SDG achievement was drafted. It will be finalized and approved at the Inter-Ministerial Committee on SDGs to take place by the end of 2017
    • Different parliamentary groups have agreed to reach a joint parliamentary declaration on SDGs (by the end of December 2017) ACPD compiled a package with information on issues related to GBV, early marriages, population dynamics related to SDG 3,5,11,16 and 17 has been compiled and will be submitted to the MPs that are in the Albanian Parliamentary Group on Population and Development recently reorgansed due to the national elections.

- On International Population Day, International Youth Day, Contraception Day, 16 Days of Activism ACPD staff, volunteers, and stakeholders got together in public places to put across messages on the importance of implementation of Agenda 2030 and SRH targeting decision-makers, women, youth and general public.

- While we met the representatives of the government and MPs we addressed a number of issues specifically: - Low percentage of 2.8 covering the health caring the country which has resulted in lack of services and quality of care. -The fact that young people face particular barriers limiting their access to family planning. - Child marriage - a concern, affects girls from rural and Roma communities , a barrier for them to enter the labour market. -In 2011, 31 percent of 13 to 17 year-old.

Title: Sexuality education for a lifelong flourishing – (funded by) IPPF

➢ Outcomes of Activities

- ACPD has contributed to a supportive environment towards young people sexuality.

- 40 parents increased their knowledge and skills how to communicate with children and how to address their concerns on their sexuality 85% of them understood the rationale and benefits of talking to children and young people about SRH, SE, risk reducing behaviours, consent and healthy boundaries. 36 of them reported back to staff on spreading the learning among their family members; friends and colleagues. As well they brought up examples how they have practised the learning: many of them have discussed with children on menarche, body changes and puberty, diverse relationships, contraceptive methods, making love for the first time etc.

- ACPD provided training for CSE peer educators for 110 young people, from which 70 were from underserved communities. They were trained as peer educators on CSE with focus on Diversity, Gender, Pleasure and Sex Positivity and Abortion.

- 6 following seminars on CSE sensitive issues were conducted by peer educators and assisted/supervised by ACPD staff of the project. As a result, 200 young people were provided with subset of the CSE curriculum, while 140 were reached with a single session.

- 120 YP who sell sex, LGBT, MSMs, IDUs, were reached out with information and education on sexual rights, HIV, safer sex, legal context, SRH services and where to get them etc. They passed their information among other 455 YKP through delivering 15 sessions.

- 100 teachers built their capacity to properly deliver the CSE sensitive topics in schools. The majority of teachers reported back to have passed on their learning to partners, family members, friends and colleagues many of whom had young children. 200 education professionals were enabled with CSE.

Title: Speak It Out Loud - Joint action to prevent and respond to Sexual and Gender Based Violence against vulnerable rural women and girls including Roma and Egyptian ethnicity – (funded by) IPPF

- **Outcomes of Activities**

- 50 service providers (from Vlore and Shkoder) have acquired information, technical skills about SGBV and DV and the referral mechanism, in order to offer safe medical and emotional support for the girls/women victims/survivors of the violence.

- 500 copies of the manual ”A practical approach towards gender based violence” are published and disseminated at the health care providers.

- 120 women and girls have received free of charge psychological counselling at the ACPD Center for SGBV issues. 15 of them are referred at other institutions of the Referal Mechanisme such as the Police and Vatra organization.

- 60 community leaders and members and civic society activist are made aware and have improved the communication between them in order to better address the SGBV and DV. The project has also strengthened the cooperation and improved the communication between all the members of the Referal Mechanisme of GBV in Vlora and Shkodra area.

- 50 boys from the rural areas of Novosela, Orikum, Dajc and Region number 4 in Shkodra are trained to become active members of the COMBAT group and are involved in the raise awareness campaigns in their respective communities.

- 1000 copies of the leaflet against bulling between peers are disseminated at the aware raising campaigns in the project areas and at the respective schools.

- 20,000 people are reached with awareness messages about SDG and especially the number 5 objective connected with GBV, against domestic violence, early marriages and the role of men and boys as part of the solution, through the awareness campaigns and the theatre “A trampled dream” that is performed at the Theatre in Vlora and Shkodra on occasion of the 16 days of activism against GBV.

- The theatre play is a successful tool to raise awareness of 600 persons (500 in Vlora and 100 in Shkodra) young people and community leaders about GBV and forced/early marriages. The theatre is realized by the volunteers of Aulona Center of the COMBAT groups.

- Awareness campaigns had a strong echo on both media and social media. It has increased the visibility of our organization through press releases and interviews and TV programs in the local TV

in Vlora such as: TV 6+1 Vlora, Vlora News, One TV reaching this way a bigger number of people with messages against SGBV through the multimedia.

- All the activities had an echo in real time also in the social media and in the webpage of the organization.

- Vlora Municipality, as a result of the advocacy work of the project, has improved the services towards the victims/survivors of GBV by increasing the budget for social rent/homes for the victims and offering free of charge transport cost for professional courses for them.

- A survey is published with a deep analyses about the way the Referral Mechanism functions against SGBV and DV in Vlora and Shkodra and the survey is disseminated at all the members of the Mechanism and the recommendations and lessons learnt are discussed in the meetings.

Title: Cervical Cancer prevention and control in Albania – (funded by) IPPF

- **Outcomes of Activities**

- A ToT training package on "Prevention of CC through screening using visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA) and treatment with cryotherapy" was developed using IPPF resources. ACPD organized several introductory meetings with high officials of the MoH, UNFPA representatives, experts of the RH and CC, gynecologists etc.

- Partnerships were signed between ACPD and these institutions defining terms of collaboration in relation to referrals and partners' engagement towards the project activities.

- 12 meetings were organized by project staff with CBOs, community leaders and health workers (60 people).

- 480 women were reached through mobile clinics;

- 750 women were screened with VIA (from 3274 women screened in total). VIA positive clients were referred to the Institute of Public Health for obtaining an HPV test. Positive Pap smear results were referred to the Tirana Maternity Hospital and Vlora Regional Hospital for follow up. Colposcopy was provided in ACPD clinics. ACPD staff has rigorously followed its clients, providing them with referral cards and tracing their further care and services.

- The client exit interviews indicated: 2000 women (who visited ACPD clinics) were informed about the CC screening via awareness raising activities, community outreach and educational activities.

- Cervical Cancer Day 4th February and Women's day events - 111.200 people were reached out with positive messages about CC screening, prevention and treatment through educational and awareness raising activities and social media in Tirana and Vlora, under the motto "We can, I can"; "Get tested to prevent the cervical cancer". A local TV, covered and aired one of the events in Vlora through main news edition giving echo to ACPD efforts towards the women's health in Albania with IPPF support. ACPD staff and two activists updated the existing clinical guidelines of ACPD extending the component of CC with Clinical Standards of Practice and Counselling Guide on VIA, cryotherapy and HPV test.

- 520 young people at age 9-13 were made aware how to protect themselves through HPV vaccine and other methods of screening.

- 390 women based in rural areas, women and men from Roma community and others from KP (LGBT, sex workers, IDU etc.) acquired knowledge related to CC prevention. Client exit interviews indicated these targeted groups' representatives visited ACPD clinics after participating in these events.

- 70 health care providers (gynaecologists, midwifes, nurses, managers of primary health care, CSO's representatives and mental health care providers) based in 6 regions of Albania were trained on VIA, cryotherapy and advocacy. In December 2017, ACPD conducted a study to describe women's views and experiences of cervical cancer screening.

Title: I DECIDE 2017 – To plan my family / To use contraception / To protect my sexual and reproductive health – (funded by) IPPF

➢ Outcome of Activities

- Two public events were organised in Tirana and Vlora cities to call to decision - makers to put forward their work and investment towards SRH and contraception. As the new strategies on contraception and RH (2017 - 2021) have been approved these activities were focused on advocating for the commitment of decision – makers to implement the strategies by ensuring that the budgets designated for these strategies be implemented.

- ACPD mobilized various actors including health care providers NGOs, young people and women's forums, media, local community leaders to make the voices of women and young people heard as regards improved access to contraception.

- Promotional materials, brochures, banners, bracelets, label led blouse, etc,; have been used to market the event and to convey messages to the targeted decision - makers (officials of the MoH, parliamentarians, health and youth and social affairs committee, etc). The slogan of the campaign was "I Decide on my Contraception"! Young activists wearing T-shirts with the slogan I decide on my contraception "delivered positive messages related to contraception and sexual rights targeting young population and adults.

- Throughout the campaign approximately 12,000 people were reached with contraceptive messages via IEC materials, social media etc.

Title: Rural Women and Girls agents of change in community – (funded by) Olof Palme

As a result of the advocacy of the Alliance of Women Counselors are improved the policies in favor of disadvantaged women or the survivors of the SGBV.

- **Outcome of Activities**

- 50 women members of the Independent Women Forums have monitored ten municipality Council activities advocating through the Vlora Alliance of Women Councilors for the most priority issues of the Social Contract or new issues.

- 40 women and girls from our project areas have benefited from the free transport cost and free professional courses because of the budget the Municipality has allocated for this purpose.

- In response to the advocacy work of the Women Forums the Municipality has also budgeted for 2017 a sum of 800,000 leke, for the free transport cost of the women/girls in need from rural areas to attend the professional courses in city, which is also a Social Contract point.

- The Alliance of Women Counselors being sensitized about the need of the marginalized groups has been present in four meetings with rep of the Women Forums to learn more about the needs of the vulnerable groups and also the needs of roma and Egyptians communities of Novosela and Shushica.

- The Women from the Independent Forums have voiced their needs in four participatory budgeting meetings with Vlora Municipality staff in order to speak loud their priorities for the 2018 budget.

- 50 Conference participants by the end of the year exchanged experience and got acquainted with the findings and reccomandations of the Score Cards Survey 2017 realized in the four rural project areas.

- 4 official papers sent to the local government on needs to be addressed on 2018 budget. Systematic contacts and lobbing with the local governments to follow the process.

- 75 women/girls have participated in the Fair displaying their handicrafts, embroideries and crops.

- 20 representatives of political parties through 6 meetings were made aware of women's concerns especially the need for their participation in the leading structures of the political parties and in their needs being included in the electoral plalforms for the 2017 national elections.

- The local NGOs in Vlora better coordinate their joint initiatives with each other in favour of human rights and gender issues. Four initiatives are realized during 2017 on women's rights; on 8thof March, 25th of November, World Youth Day and World Population Day.

- 20 representatives of the NGOs and other stakeholders (state institutions and women's forums) are interviewed by media in the awareness campaigns for women's rights organized during 2017.

- 40000 people watched the four TV broadcasting (promoting gender equality and advocacy for the women's rights, one on the occasion of 8th March and two on 16 days of activism against violence toward women) the meetings of the Alliance of Women Council Members with women Forums and the Conference to share the Score Cards results and recommendations at local TV , and in the social media.

- Five out of 10 priorities of the Social Contract are included in the budget of 2018 of Vlora Municipality.

Title: Health care system readiness to deliver MISP of SH in emergency situations – (funded by) UNFPA

The focus of this project was to strengthen local authorities' capacities in five districts to emergency preparedness and response related SRH/GBV.

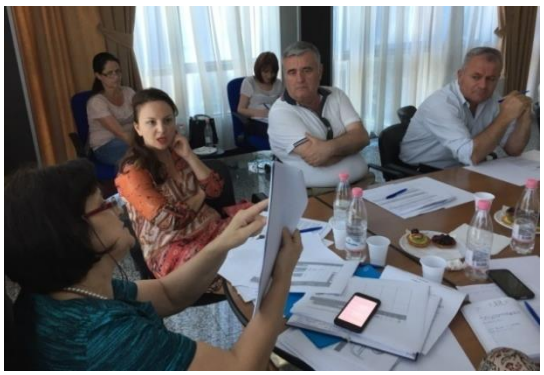
- **Outcomes of Activities**

- Training of primary health care providers in the districts of Kukes, Tropoje, Diber, Bulqize and Mat on MISP. Capacities of 180 health care providers were strengthened and improved. 5 Objectives of MISP as well as documents related to civil emergencies were shared and discussed. The training course was accredited by the National Center for Continuous Medical Education with 12 credits.

- Drafting of the UNFPA Albania Strategy for Communicating in Emergencies . One of the key interventions was the organization of Round Tables in the regions flooded in the autumn of 2017. These round tables served to generate discussions among key stakeholders on existing issues faced during emergency situations and on priorities that should be addressed in future plans.

- 4000 copies of "Safe mother in Emergency Situations" were disseminated to community people in the areas at risk of floods and snow blocking. MISP Readiness Assessment Tool for 2017was compiled with the support from the representatives of the Ministry of Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Hospitals, experts and NGOs and UNFPA office in the country.

- 157 participants attended the workshops on issues related to assessment of emergency situation (MISP) organized, specifically in Gjirokastra, Saranda , Korca and in Tirana where the training on MISP had been conducted in 2016. There were 157 participants in total. SOPs on GBV for the provision of services by health workers in civil emergencies have been complied and included in the package with all the SOPS for GBV cases submitted to the Ministry of Health and Social protection to be considered and adapted in 2018.



Title: Advocacy and awareness on ICPD issues, including International days – (funded by) UNFPA

All activities included in the project were focused on advocacy and awareness related to SRHR, specifically: Objective 3.7 and 5.6 of SDGs.

- **Outcomes of Activities**

1. On July 11th, ACPD and its youth centers: – Youth Center Trokitje in Shkoder, Youth and Women Center Aulona in Vlora and Youth Center Po in Tirana organized the awareness campaigns under the motto "Family Planning, Empowering People, Developing Nations" , in Shkodra, Vlora and Tirana.

- 1600 leaflets with information on the main methods of contraception, on ACPD clinics/service provision centers and condoms were distributed, as well as educational sessions held.
- 8000 people were reached through leaflet dissemination, and messages via social media and direct meetings of the volunteers in public areas.

2. On International Youth Day - 12 August 2017, ACPD staff in Tirana and Vlora in collaboration with their partner organizations such as YMCA, AIESEC, Act for Society, Youth Voice Network and with the support of UNFPA organized an awareness campaign under the motto "Youth Building Peace".

- The purpose of the campaign was to highlight the contribution of young people in conflict prevention, transformation, inclusiveness, social justice and sustainable peace.
- IEC materials were distributed. More than 10000 people were reached with messages and through social media (facebook, website).
- One - TV Channel broadcast on this activity - TV Airing on Youth International Day

3. HIV/AIDs Day - On December 1st an informative activity on the occasion of the International Day Against HIV / AIDS was organized with the participation of ACPD volunteers and students from Nursing Faculty - University of Tirana and ALDENT University.

- The participants were informed on ACPD work against HIV. A video compiled by ACPD in the framework of the SDGs, was aired including Objective 3, point 3.3, which aims to reduce the AIDS epidemic by 2030.
- Then the participants were informed by three experts on the current situation of people affected by HIV / AIDS in Albania, the services provided to vulnerable groups. They all volunteered to convey the messages to their peers and community people in their residential areas.
- On the same day "Aulona Center", a branch of ACPD in Vlora organized a knowledge competition between three 9th grades classes, represented by 7 students each, under the slogan My Health, my Right! Stop AIDS!. The competition was attended by an audience of 100 other students from school.

Title: Capacities of young people strengthened on ASRH services and information – (funded by) UNFPA

- **Outcomes of Activities**

- Two workshops were conducted on the topic “Youth, sexual reproductive health and rights, gender issues.” Also related especially SDG 3.7 and 5.6 . They were attended by 45 young people. The young people were informed on SRHR and actively participated in the discussions, role plays etc. They also learnt about the importance of Youth Friendly services already provided at the ACPD youth Centers in Shkodra, Vlora and Tirana.

- The main results of these workshops were: Great interest displayed in relation to SRHR and especially YFS as the participants had limited knowledge about them.

Title: Strengthen health system to provide equal access to quality integrated SRH services at national and local level and in humanitarian settings – (funded by) UNFPA

Defining training profiles for primary health care providers with focus sexual and on reproductive health services. Based on the foreseen output addressing the strengthening of health system to provide equal access to quality integrated SRH services at national and municipal levels there were a number of achievements as below.

- **Outcomes of Activity**

- National Clinical Guideline on Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents were compiled and the order on the Approval of Guidelines on SRH for Youth and adolescents was issued by the Minister of Health and Social Protection.

- Three training courses on clinical guidelines for adolescents health were conducted in three regions of the country with the engagement of 124 health care providers from PHC. The training course was accredited by the National Center for Continuous Medical Education with 6 credits.

- 93 health care providers were registered to attend the virtual training on Family Planning developed through the online platform ViC (http://www.vic.eeirh.org/login/index.php) Out of all enrolled participants, only one forth of them succeeded to complete at least one training module. Learning level in each successful participant was quite good.

- 100 primary health care providers were trained in a three two-days training courses on Family Planning organized in Shkodra, Vlora and Tirana regions with PHC providers.

- 103 health care providers attended one- day workshops on Logistics Management Information System (LMIS) organized with the aim to strengthen management capacities for LMIS and FP services at the district level.

- 45 young people acquired knowledge by active participation in the workshops on the topic “Youth, sexual reproductive health and rights, gender issues.” They also learnt about the importance of Youth Friendly services already provided at the ACPD youth Centers in Shkodra, Vlora and Tirana.

- A “Manual on Clinical Guideline Development based on ADAPTE” has been compiled to be used as a framework for clinical guidelines development in the country. The manual will assist health care professionals: -To use different information systems to access published guidelines. - To understand principles of adapting international and/or national guidelines into local context/use. To understand key principles in implementing guidelines in local clinical practice. In order to support hospital teams to establish sustainable Quality Improvement Processes for perinatal care within the quality of

assessment tool was improved and it will be included in the standards of accreditation of maternity hospitals.

- The advocacy work of ACPD led to the initiative of the staff of the Faculty of Technical and Medical Sciences to develop a road map related to improving the curriculum of SRH. Results of work in 2017 concern revision and/or inclusion of topic areas referring to family planning, safe abortion and cervical cancer.

- The National Guidelines on the Use of Antiretroviral Medicines for the Treatment and Prevention of HIV Infection have been developed by the working group established with an Order of the Minister of Health.

- Referring to strengthening the national cervical cancer program it was conducted a general population survey on beliefs, knowledge and attitudes regarding all three screenings (cervical cancer, breast and colorectal cancer.

  • 9 Health centers (urban and rural) were involved in this initiative (trained, and equipped with materials/consumables);

  • 1600 women were contacted for the cervical cancer screening test; • 1400 women accepted to participate in the screening program and were provided with the test and with the results/advice for prevention;

  • 1480 women accepted to fill in the developed questionnaire; - 80% out of 100 %

Title: GBV & GE addressed through multisectoral response – (funded by) UNFPA

➢ **Outcomes of Activities**

- 38 young people in Vlora attended two 2-day trainings and established Community based teams to contribute in awareness raising on gender based violence and be a support to the referral mechanism for GBV in the district.

- Standards of Operational Procedures and Essential Guidelines for Health /Police/Justice/Psycho-Social Care service were translated, and the terminology was adapted to the Albanian documents on GBV. They have already been submitted to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection for consideration and the next steps will continue in 2018.

- The pedagogical staff of the Faculty of Medical Technical Sciences, improved their knowledge on GBV by attending workshops with the aim of equipping the students with the skills to provide proper care to GBV survivors. The information and knowledge provided will be helpful for pedagogical staff of this Faculty and will support the process of improvement of Faculty' curricula with specific focus on VAWG and DV.

- Members of the Referral Mechanism for the treatment of cases of VAW&DV in Korca learnt and shared their experience with regional experts on the objectives and guiding principles; and functions of MSR such as: a) intervention/service provision, b) reporting and referral, c) training programmes, d) documenting, registering and data analysing, e) prevention and awareness raising and f) coordination.

Title: Empowering Marginalized Population through inclusive programs and policies preventing HIV/AIDS and other blood born viruses among drug users, MSM and Prisoners in Albania – (funded by) UNFPA

Main Focus of the activities were to Create awareness and demand by mobilizing prisoners to increase uptake of VCT services, focusing on vulnerable groups, particularly young people.

- **Outcome of Activities**

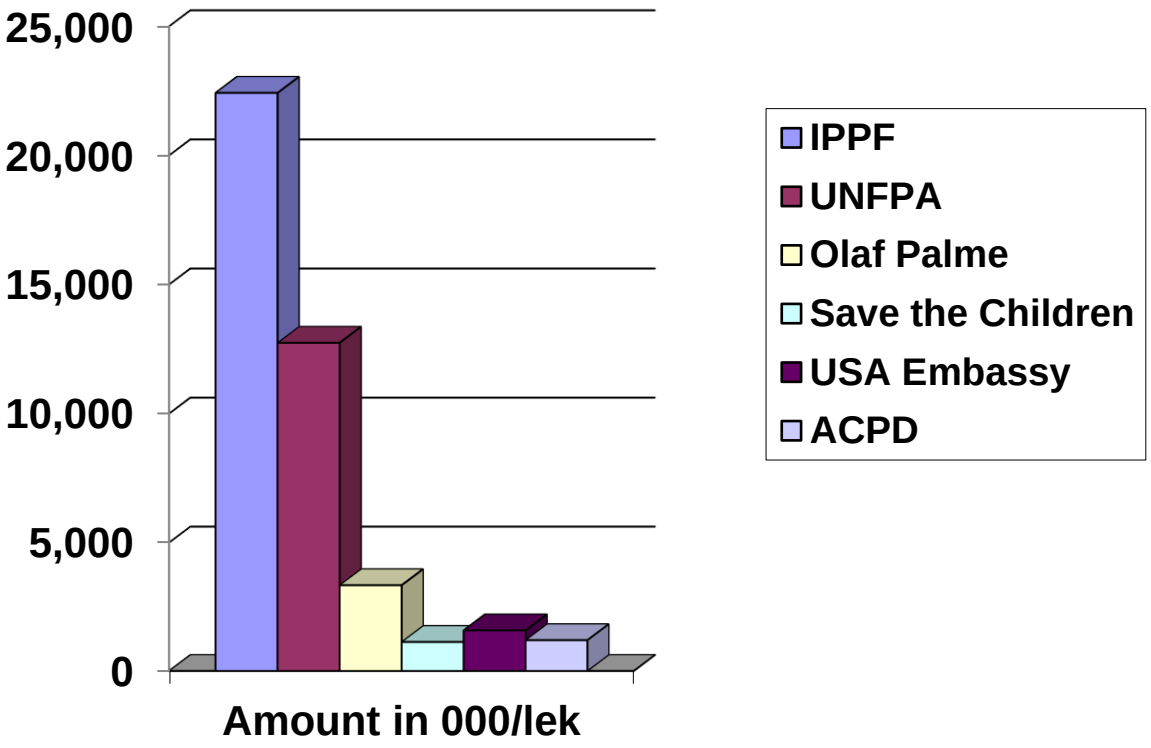
- 250 prisoners were reached during Three Information sessions, on HIV/AIDS/STI, Hepatitis and risky behaviors and benefits of using VCT were organized in Prison 325, Vaqarr and Durres. 85 prisoners were tested for HIV followed by pre and post testing counseling.
- 500 leaflets distributed among prisoners and their family members.

- Advocacy meeting with key stakeholders of prison administration aiming to ensure support and continuity of VCT centers and awareness activities in prison settings. Several advocacy meetings were organized with high official of General Prison Administration (GPA). A Memorandum of Understanding between GPA and STOP AIDS NGO was signed, followed by a two years permission entrance in prison for NGO staff and UNFPA as well.

- One day training for social and health staff of General Prison Administration and other prisons where VCT centers are already established.

- 1000 of leaflets containing simple and schematic rules (algorithm) of HIV and its specifics in prison settings was produced and distributed among prisoners and socio-health staff.

- Daily outreach risk reduction services in hot spot injecting and cruising areas where IDUs gather and socialize. Classified according to sex, the majority of reached clients are male (106) and 9 female (5 of them were injecting drug users and involved in sex work activities). Page 6 of 9 25 (twenty five) clients tested for HIV followed by pre and post testing counseling. The common age of clients reached continues to vary from 18-25 years old; however, clients under age 20 or over 40s were frequently encountered as well. Risk Reduction materials distributed during the reporting period.

Income of Activities

I. Fund received by donors	in 000/lek
IPPF	22,425 Lek
UNFPA	12,744 Lek
Olaf Palme	3,341 Lek
Save the Children	1,582 Lek
USA Embasy	1,130 Lek
II. Other Income	
ACPD - income from services in Women center and bank interest	1,201 lek