

[Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research 2011 - Interviews with the course participants - Fatima Kozacoka](#)

Interview with

[Dawit Assefa Lemma](#)

[Columbia University - ICAP Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia](#)

Tell about yourself

I am a qualified health professional with the experience and strong motivation to excel in the field of public health, mainly in the areas of HIV, TB and SRH which are the major health problems in Ethiopia. Currently working for the international NGO, I provide support for the comprehensive HIV/AIDS related activities and advice on integration of TB/HIV, FP/RH/HIV.

Why you have chosen to study this course?

I have chosen to study this course because I believe that this course will help me to get comprehensive knowledge about intersection of HIV and SRH problems, hence I will be able to contribute in a practically in the prevention, promotion, care and treatment of SRH/HIV.

My past experience in the areas of SRH has promoted my interest as well. I am always looking for opportunities to develop my skills and knowledge in SRH area.

How do you manage to combine your work commitments with course commitments?

I devote a few hours at the evening during the week days for my studies and also try to allocate time during the weekends. It is possible to combine both work and the course commitments: "Where there is a will there is a means".

How does a typical day at your work look like?

Working on a document, monthly/quarterly or supervision report, preparing a job aid, analyzing a monthly data and giving feedback on performance to regional teams, or attending a meeting/workshop at the Ministry of Health, going out to a health facility mentorship visit, organizing and facilitating various trainings.

What would you like to achieve in five years?

I would like to acquire a well-rounded knowledge, skills and experience in the major public health areas and be able to manage an efficient and sustainable program. Also I would like to conduct as many appropriate researches as possible in the fields of my interest and publish them in well-known journals.