<u>Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research 2011 - Interviews with</u> the course participants - Fatima Kozacoka

Interview with

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Tell about yourself

I am a 33 years old physician working on HIV/AIDS program in a PEPFAR funded NGO named JHU-TSEHAI in southern part of Ethiopia. Currently, I am serving as ART and TB/HIV adviser. Now, I am currently trying to perform two researches: first proposal on TB submitted for ethical approval to Ethiopian IBR and the second proposal for the partial fulfillment of MPH program at UNISA, South Africa. I am planning to carry out more researches in the future.

Why you have chosen to study this course?

I was very impressed with one MPH courses named '' Introduction to Population study and Reproductive Health''. This has relevant with regard to the achievement of MDG-5, quite pertinent to my country where population growth, fertility rate, MMR and IMR is one of the highest in the world. In fact, my thesis is also on Fertility and HIV/AIDS. Also, I have an ambition to work more in the area of reproductive health and HIV in the future.

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

It's very cumbersome to handle my work and this course together. But I am very economical with regard to my time. I spend more than half of my out of work time for my education/course. I am always trying to be so disciplined.

How does a typical day at your work look like?

More than 50% of my day time spent travelling for mentorship, supervision. The rest is on cascading training for health care providers. Only weekends and evening time usually spent for my education and course.

What was your biggest work challenge you have dealt with? (Share the outcome or the results)

It's the difficulty of integrating HIV service with family planning. Now, some of the southern hospitals have already started integration activity of family planning with ART clinic.

What would you like to achieve in five years?

At least to perform and publish 2 research papers and start PHD course.