

Sexuality and Gender Identity

This is the Annual Impact Report of the **Sexuality & Gender Identity** Program, written by **Shashi Bhushan** (MSAI India) on the **25th June 2018** submitted for the **67th IFMSA General Assembly August Meeting 2018**.

Summary of the Report

The sexuality and gender identity program aims to achieve an optimal Sexual Health, Equity and Human Rights preservation that is ensured for every person regardless their Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation, in society as a whole, but especially in the healthcare environment.

The main focus areas of the sexuality and gender identity program are LGBTIQ+ health and sex worker health. Providing regardful, non-discriminatory healthcare to all persons regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity is the principal aim of this program.

The baseline assessment showed that 6 activities were enrolled in the program and 5 activities were reported. This was a considerable increase compared to the previous years which can be attributed to better promotion about the programs structure.

Most important achievements

- Enrollment and Reporting of activities
- Promotion of the program during 67th March Meeting 2018 in Egypt
- Capacity Building: training on Programs during the 67th March Meeting 2018 in Egypt.
- Published a manual on Transgender Health within Asia Pacific Region
- Streamlining of Programs

Struggles encountered



- Lack of understanding from NMOs on the objectives of the program and the benefits of the enrolment of activities.
- Overlapping of the activities with other programs, especially with the Comprehensive Sexual Education Program and Maternal Health and Access to Safe Abortion Program.

Sexuality & Gender Identity Program 2017/18 in numbers

More than 35,300 people were reached out by the medium of on ground and online campaigns.

[Link to Sexuality & Gender Identity Program Description](#)



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Message from the Program Coordinator

Hello,

I am Shashi Bhushan, medical student from Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Belgaum, India. Sexuality and Gender Identity is a very important topic for medical students. Due to extreme stigmatization and discrimination, it is the need of the hour for the students to act collectively and bring out the change needed in the society.

My term as a program Coordinator was extremely wonderful. I got a chance to work with some of the best minds in the organization. The best part was that I could connect to so many wonderful activity coordinators and help them out with their activities.

For the first time, a manual was released under the ambit of this program on a very important topic of transgender health which was appreciated by all.

Finally, I would like to tell all the medical students to understand the importance of this topic and continue working for a better society.

Thank You.

Shashi Bhushan



Introduction to the Sexuality & Gender Identity Program

Sexuality is a combination of people's biological gender (the gender assigned at birth based on anatomical characteristics), their gender identity (the gender that a person identifies with and experiences themselves as being), their sexual orientation (what genders a person is sexually attracted towards), their feelings about themselves as sexual beings (how they feel about sex, their sex life and what they feel about expressing their sexuality) and their sexual behavior (expression or repression of their sexuality, practice of safe sex).

The sexuality and gender identity program originates from the main assumption that there is a lack of knowledge about sexuality and gender issues within medical students that may lead to future poor outcomes in sexual health and violations of human rights. Therefore this program aims to empower medical students by obtaining knowledge about sexuality, sexual orientation and gender identity and their health and associated rights.

Impact of the Sexuality & Gender Identity Program

Basic Activities Statistics

Name of the Activity	Name of the NMO(s) involved	Main focus area of the activity
Prism	MSAI India	Education to society



Let's talk about sex	SloMSIC	Education to society
Training on Heteronormativity	LiMSA Lithuania	Education to medical students
Ditch the Hate	MSAI - India	Education to society
TRANSformation - Widening knowledge and boundaries	IFMSA Brazil	Education to medical students

Program Impact

<p>Outcome 1: Medical students and current healthcare professionals getting equipped with knowledge and skills about issues people face in healthcare related to gender identity and sexuality in general, in a respectful and non-confrontational manner.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Medical students and healthcare providers aware [redacted] and empowered to take actions to decrease stigma and discrimination of people based on gender identity and sexuality (including sexual orientation).</p>	<p>Indicator: IDAHOT 2018 was celebrated. Also, all the activities aimed towards this outcome.</p> <p>Indicator: 4 activities educated the medical students and healthcare providers</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Both Medical Students and stigmatised groups, [redacted] such as LGBT+ individuals or sex workers, being educated about the availability of healthcare services and working to ensure the access to them.</p>	<p>Indicator: 4 activities achieved this outcome</p>



<p>Outcome 4: Successful improvement of access to quality healthcare and reduction of stigma for people on policy level.</p>	<p>Indicator: 1 activity worked towards improving the quality of healthcare at policy level</p>
<p>Outcome 5: Advocating for decrease in sexualisation and objectification of women and switching the focus to other attributes.</p>	<p>Indicator: Not assessed</p>
<p>Outcome 6: Ensure that Medical and Healthcare Curricula are free of prejudicial and stigmatising contents, specially in those cases about LGBT+ individuals and/or sex workers.</p>	<p>Indicator: 1 activity worked towards the medical curricula.</p>
<p>Outcome 7: Providing children and adolescents a safe environment to develop their sexuality and gender identity.</p>	<p>Indicator: Not assessed</p>
<p>Outcome 8: Promoting a positive approach to sex with actions against harassment and ensuring consensual sexual behaviours.</p>	<p>Indicator: Not assessed</p>
<p>Outcome 9: Working on LGBT+ collective and sex workers empowerment through advocacy and actions against social exclusion.</p>	<p>Indicator: 1 activity worked towards empowerment through advocacy and action against social inclusion.</p>

Discussion and Recommendation



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Program Annual Report
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Compared to the previous years, this term saw a lot more activities being enrolled and reported. Due to proper promotion and explaining the importance of program structure, there was better response from the NMOs and medical students. However, seeing the present situation, more activities are required to be done by the members and it should be properly enrolled and reported so that other members can also get an idea of planning a good activity. The program also focuses on sex workers and activities regarding the same should be conducted by the members.

After the streamlining process, this program will be merged with Comprehensive Sexual education program to avoid the overlaps between the two programs so that we have better and more elaborate activities contributing to the sexual and reproductive health.