

PLACE in the Caribbean

Institutionalizing PLACE methodology to reach key populations in the Caribbean



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List of Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
FSW	Female sex workers
GPS	Global positioning system
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
MARPS	Most at risk populations
MSM	Men that have sex with men
PLACE	Priority for local AIDS control efforts
STI	Sexually transmitted Infection
SW	Sex Workers
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and testing

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The Ministry of Health, National HIV/STI Programme has been diligently coordinating the National response over the years and have many achievements to be proud of. The entire team is to be commended for working diligently at their efforts. The battle is not yet over, there is much more that needs to be done.

Background/Introduction

The Caribbean Region has an adult HIV prevalence of 1%, higher than in any other world region outside of sub-Saharan Africa.¹ While the epidemic is considered to be generalised there are several pockets where the epidemic is most concentrated. These include Most at Risk Populations (MARPs) such as men that have sex with men (MSM), sex workers (SW), drug users and inmates. The HIV prevalence among female sex workers (FSW) is considerably high; the figures vary from 2.7% in the Dominican Republic to 27% in Guyana. Across the Caribbean men that have sex with men carry the highest HIV burden with an HIV prevalence ranging from 6.1% in Dominican Republic to 32% in Jamaica.² Strategies to control the epidemic among these marginalised groups are restrained by archaic colonial laws that criminalise some sexual behaviours and practices which drive the most vulnerable underground, encourage stigma and discrimination and prevent access to services. As a result comprehensive health programming in the Caribbean for sex workers is extremely limited and very little is known about male sex workers, men that sell sex to men and men that sell sex to women. UNAIDS reports that, 40% of sex workers in Jamaica and 72% of sex workers in Guyana are not being reached by prevention programmes despite the negative impact of HIV among them.³

Over the last decade the Caribbean epidemic has become increasingly feminised. In 2008 females accounted for 53% of PLHIV in the Caribbean compared to 35% in 1990. This may be attributed to an increasing number of women entering the sex trade due to economic down turn, gender inequity and cultural norms that promote ignorance about sex and reproductive health rather than empowering women to demand safe sex practices. Sex workers and MSM are also considered a bridge population as clients of sex workers also have other main partners. Similarly MSM also mention maintaining female partners as a means of disguising their orientation in order to avoid persecution. The Jamaica Ministry of Health reported in 2010 that 25% of males newly infected with HIV identified unprotected sex with a sex worker.⁴

¹ UNAIDS. Global Report, fact sheet 2010

² UNAIDS. The status of HIV in the Caribbean 2010

³ UNAIDS. Keeping score II. 2008

⁴ Ministry of Health, Jamaica. Epidemiological Update. 2010

Jamaica's Ministry of Health has been conducting interventions with the sex work population for more than two decades. This has resulted in a significant decrease in HIV prevalence from as much as 12% in the early 1990's to 4% in 2011. Repeat engagement and constant presence at sex work sites has helped to build trust and created inroads into understanding the dynamics of the population and the behaviours that drive risk. The prevention programme received a major boost in 2005 when the first PLACE survey was conducted. PLACE unearthed a wealth of information about condom use trends, the undercurrents of sexual partnerships, HIV/STI rates and identified new sex sites that were previously untouched by prevention intervention due to the hidden nature of much of the population.

Objectives of this manual

This manual is intended for use by programme managers and personnel responsible for conducting HIV prevention and control interventions among sex workers. The PLACE Methodology is a systematic approach which utilizes data in understanding the dynamics of the HIV epidemic, those most affected and identifying the determinants and drivers of the epidemic.

The objectives of this manual are:

1. Integrate tenets of PLACE in on-going design and implementation of HIV prevention interventions among sex workers.
2. Monitor epidemiological trends of HIV and STI rates among the target group
3. Improve quality of data being collected in order to facilitate an evidenced based approach in designing prevention strategies
4. Guide the process of understanding the proximate determinants of the HIV epidemic among at risk groups and identify opportunities for intervention
5. Identify gaps in current programmes and explore opportunities for expansion to increase reach and coverage

PLACE Overview

PLACE-Priorities for local AIDS Control Efforts, is a rapid assessment tool to monitor and improve AIDS prevention programme coverage in areas where HIV transmission is most likely to occur. PLACE is designed for local programme managers who want to know where to target resources to prevent new infections. PLACE systematically identifies gaps in current prevention programmes, enhances the local use of these findings to improve programme delivery and monitors programme coverage.⁵ The PLACE method is especially useful where resources are scarce and interventions need to be specifically targeted in order to yield the greatest results. PLACE is a venue based approach to identifying locations where incidents of HIV may be highest as well as where the risk behaviours take place, e.g. where persons go to meet new sex partners, if cash is exchanged for sex or if there is drug use at the site among other risk factors.

PLACE usually comprises 5 major activities

1. Surveillance	Identify areas where HIV incidence is likely to be high
2. Monitoring behaviour and programme coverage	Describe the characteristics of sexual networks and monitor programme coverage using indicators and maps
3. Intervention design	Improve the design and delivery of interventions to fill gaps in programme coverage
4. Scaling up programmes	Extend programmes to additional areas
5. Community mobilization	Improve social, legal and economic structures

⁵ PLACE a manual for implementing the PLACE method. Measure Evaluation, 2005

Proximate determinant framework

PLACE not only includes epidemiological data and clustering of HIV infections but also takes into consideration the underlying determinants of an HIV epidemic. The proximate determinant framework explores how contextual and programme factors contribute to the three biological determinants of HIV transmission (1. exposure to HIV, 2. transmission efficiency, 3. duration of infectiousness). Prevention programmes therefore must contextualize the drivers of the epidemic into social, cultural and economic factors and take these into consideration when designing interventions.

Underlying determinants take into account the social, cultural, environmental, economic and legislative landscape. These are the factors that influence the behaviours that drive risk. These factors also help to promote an enabling environment that's supports HIV interventions or one which creates barriers that drives stigma and discrimination or that forces those most at risk and in need of services underground.

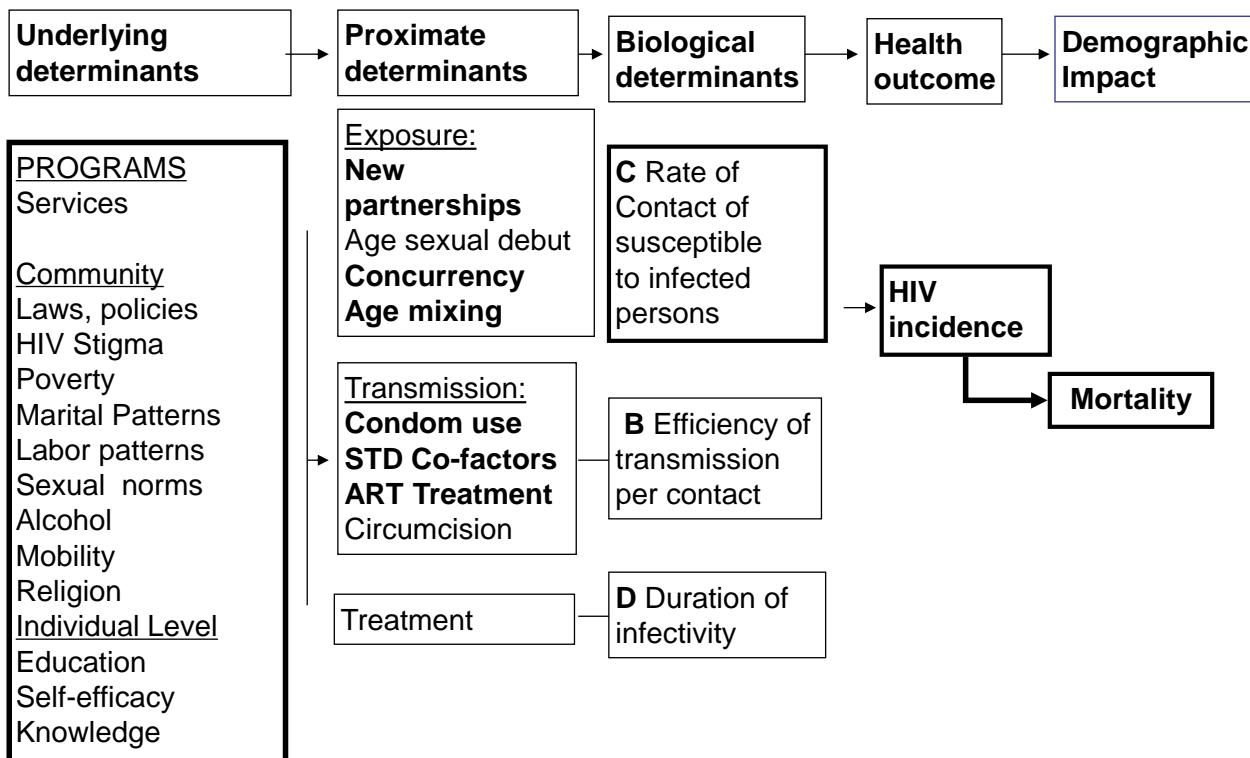
Proximate determinants refer to the actual behaviours that increase likelihood of HIV infection and transmission. This speaks factors such as multiple partner relationships, transactional sex, early sexual debut, condom use patterns among others.

Biological determinants speak to the susceptibility to infection based on sexual contact with infected persons as well as the infectiousness of the contact which influences the possibility of transmission.

Health outcomes reflects HIV and STI prevalence, how many person end up with the virus

Demographic impact affects how many people die as a result of infection

Proximate Determinant Framework



Source: Boerma JT & Weir SS. (2005). Integrating demographic and epidemiologic approaches to research on HIV/AIDS: the proximate-determinants framework

Site based targeting

The sex work industry in the Caribbean is constantly evolving as a heterogeneous mix, spanning from the more visible street based, exotic clubs and bars to more discreet massage parlours, brothels, tourism biased, electronic and escort services among others. Effective prevention programming requires constant monitoring of the population in order to keep abreast with trends and identify and address gaps. Many of these venues and sexual networks may not be directly observable and therefore require knowledgeable local experts to identify these areas. Interviewing and gathering data from local informants helps to unearth those hidden groups which would have been otherwise untouched by prevention actives. Geographic targeting is key in effectively utilizing scarce resources by focusing on areas where the probability of preventing HIV transmission is greatest.

Sex workers are highly mobile, travelling locally and regionally in search of higher wages. While some sex sites remain fixed, vibrant and lucrative others are often unstable and operations are easily influenced by external factors such as competition, violence, seasonal activities, management and law enforcement. This results in frequent closures or relocations and more covert operations. Intervention teams therefore have to be on constant look out for new sites that often spring up unnoticed.

MSM sites may be more difficult to identify for a number of reasons. Stigma and discrimination, as well as the threat of violence; results in the group choosing to remain largely hidden. Networking and the use of peer educators are usually effective methods of identifying and reaching the population. However other persons may be knowledgeable based on frequent interaction or as a service provider. These include: vendors, entertainment workers and operators, transport operators and security guards etc.

Holiday periods are usual peak time for the sex work industry therefore clubs and streets that may have been otherwise dormant tend to re-emerge at Christmas, summer, Easter, public holidays etc. These are also periods where high risk activities tend to increase. Alcohol and drug use may increase as well as new partner acquisition. Special attention may therefore be required based on your analysis of the outcome of your PLACE research.

1

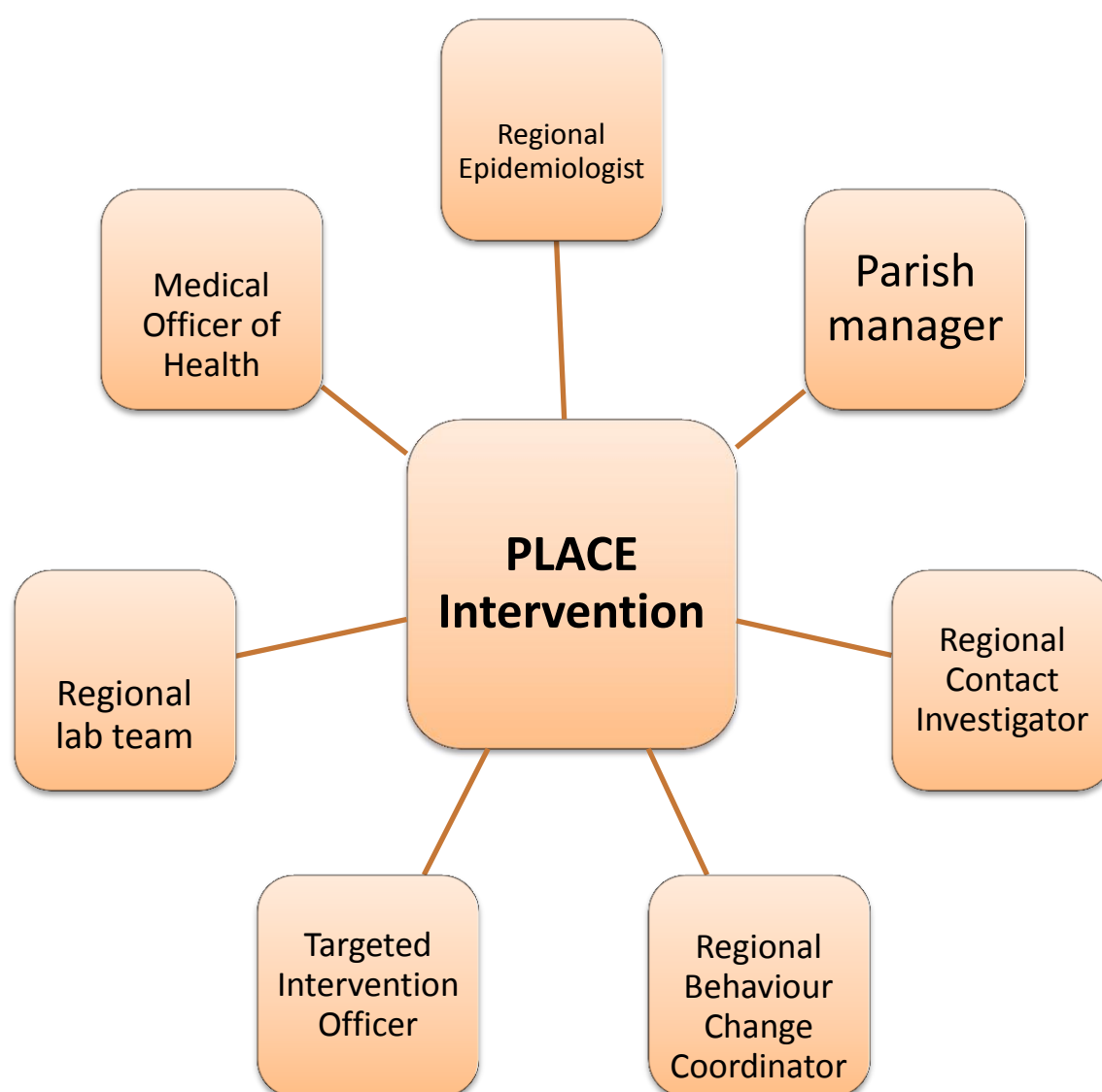
Getting Started

Objectives:

- Organise the PLACE committee that will drive the process and make critical decisions
- Identify key personnel that will make up the PLACE Committee
- Identify the geographic boundaries for PLACE to be implemented
- Develop a budget and identify resources
- Develop a training plan
- Make protocol decisions

Before delving into PLACE activities a steering committee must first be established. This team should comprise a group of local experts who will provide technical guidance and training. The goal is to integrate PLACE into routine interventions rather than as a single one off activity. As such key decision makers and personnel responsible for the HIV/AIDS response at the local Regional level must be involved from the embryonic stage.

PLACE integration steering committee



Clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each member of the steering committee. Consider why these persons were selected and what they are expected to bring to the table. Below are some suggested roles however these are not exclusive, roles may be expanded and some may also overlap. The key is to ensure that all bases are covered.

Medical Officer of Health (MoH), will be integral in identifying funds and other resources needed to conduct interventions. The MoH will also be able to provide access at various points of the health delivery system and give approval for tasks and undertakings.

Regional Epidemiologist will have access to data that can inform the selection of communities based surveillance data on HIV and STI incidence. The epidemiologist is integral in maintaining quality control of the data gathering process and analysis. They can provide technical guidance in developing the survey instrument and managing and overseeing policies relating to data. The epidemiologist should also assist with training of staff responsible for administering questionnaires. The PLACE survey should be included as part of M&E priorities and therefore help to ensure that it is conducted in all regions as well as help to maintain quality standards.

Laboratory will be solicited in order to conduct HIV and STI testing. Where tests are conducted by outreach staff the lab will be needed to supply testing resources as well as process samples that must be done under lab conditions.

Contact Investigator can provide assistance in conducting tests as well as providing follow up to clients. The Contact Investigator is a good ally in figuring out the process of returning test results especially in cases where rapid tests were not conducted and participants have to be called in for results and treatment and referral where relevant.

Behaviour Change Coordinator or local prevention programme manager will be responsible for coordinating the activities on the ground and rolling out PLACE interventions. These activities will include identifying and scheduling personnel to conduct interviews, administer questionnaires, enter data, and conduct HIV/STI tests. The coordinator also has the important task of using the outcome of the research to plan and implement prevention interventions.

Targeted Intervention Officer/BCC Officer will assist the coordinator given the magnitude of the tasks involved in managing the PLACE intervention. This person may be required to monitor field activities at every point including scheduling activities and ensuring that guidelines are being followed in the field.

The objectives of the steering committee include:

- Gaining mutual understanding of the PLACE methodology and the benefits to the local HIV response.
- Providing technical guidance at various steps in the PLACE process
- Obtaining relevant ethical and other approval
- Developing survey tools and instruments
- To identify geographical locations where PLACE will be conducted
- To manage the process of conducting PLACE activities
- Meeting periodically to monitor progress and resolve problems that may arise
- Managing and overseeing policies relating to data

PLACE Protocol decisions

This is the process by which the steering committee decides what the expected outcomes of the PLACE study should be. The committee should also decide the number of persons to be interviewed at each phase of the PLACE study as well as the number of sites/venues to be included for participant interviews. The development of the questionnaire will be influenced by programmes, populations and behaviours to be included. Some typical areas explored in PLACE surveys are:

HIV knowledge levels among target populations
Condom use trends
Condom availability
Lubricant availability
Substance abuse
Exposure to HIV prevention programmes
Access to VCT

Identifying geographical locations for conducting PLACE

The selection of priority locations and communities in which PLACE will be conducted should be based on a number of social, economic, demographic and health factors. Information to guide the decision making process can be gained from the epidemiologist in identifying high transmission areas. Information should also be sought from other agencies that collect population data such as censuses, reproductive health surveys and other demographic surveys.

The Jamaica PLACE study conducted in 2011 used a community list of high risk EDS generated by...All communities listed were visited and included in community informant surveys. Many of these communities share the following characteristics:

- Low income or inner city communities that are densely populated with limited opportunities for economic growth and social development and visible signs of degeneration.
- Rural districts with a large population of migrant and seasonal workers
- Urban centres or town centres with commercial activity, entertainment and transportation hubs
- Towns that are popular for tourism activities
- Areas that are popularly known for sex work activities, where brothels, exotic clubs and street based sex workers solicit clients.
- Areas that are neglected or marginalized due to various forms of illicit activities such as drug use, scamming, transients and high incidence of violence.
- Informal settlements or squatter communities (shanty towns), these may be poverty stricken areas where access to running water, electricity and sanitation may be limited, vector borne diseases and other illnesses related to poor hygiene and sanitation may also be common place
- Communities with high rates of unattached or out-of-school youths and high rates of teenage pregnancy.
- High incidence of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections

What resources are required to implement the PLACE methodology in your Region, Parish, and Community?

Training

Field staff will have to be trained to carry out activities at each stage of PLACE. These include: 1. Community informant surveys, 2. Site verification and 3. Participant interviews

Outreach workers should receive training in basic research methods: This is useful in order to reduce possibilities of errors and biasness. The training will help interviewers get comfortable with the information and increase confidence in asking questions.

It is also important that interviewers are trained to record the data accurately and how to manage the data-to prevent data loss or confusion. The intricate details of entering data must also be reinforced in order to ensure data quality is maintained. Training on data analysis should be done also bearing in mind that the outcomes are dependent on the quality of the data captured from interviews and the data entry process.

If a new or unfamiliar tool has been developed or even if there are amendments to an existing tool there should be a training opportunity to ensure that persons fully understand.

Utilize creative methods in training such as role playing the interview process. Carefully go through each question on the questionnaires and explore all the possible answers provided.

Resources:

15 Interviewers (outreach staff)

3 Field supervisors

2 Data entry clerks (outreach staff)

2 Computers loaded with Microsoft excel, epi data, SPSS

GPS equipment

Photocopy facilities for at least 1,000 paper copies

Clip boards, pens, pencils

Portable lights

Transportation

Selection criteria for interviewers

Interviewers represent the face of the research to the populations being targeted. Their approach often influences willingness to participate as well as the quality of the data being gathered. Outreach workers make good interviewers because they are already comfortable with vulnerable groups and they have experience working in various settings. There are potential negative implications of using outreach workers as interviewers such as bias, leading questions and imposing knowledge on participants. Characteristics of an effective interviewer should include:

- Familiarity with communities
- Non-judgemental attitude
- Confidence asking uncomfortable questions about sex
- Flexibility to work late nights and on weekends
- Willingness to visit venues where sex is being sold
- Ability to interview people from different social backgrounds
- Experience in conducting interviews and collecting data
- Honesty and trust worthiness

Budget

The cost for conducting a PLACE survey may be minimal depending on the existing resources that are already available to facilitate staff carrying out their duties. These may include transportation, printing/copying facilities, computers, HIV testing equipment and supplies outreach workers/interviewers already on pay roll. The cost may also be influenced by the size of the study population, geographic terrain of communities and sites. Below are some items to consider when preparing a PLACE budget:

Item/Description
Training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of questionnaires • Laptop and projector • Stationary (pens, pencils, writing paper, markers, flip chart paper etc) • Trainers • Training material • Venue • Refreshment
Field activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation • Interviewers • HIV/STI testing staff • Testing supplies (test kits, gloves, cotton, lancets, capillary tubes etc) • Data entry software • Portable lighting • Coolers (Igloos) • Portable tables (folding)
Reporting and dissemination of study findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-briefing sessions • Dissemination meeting for stakeholders • Printing of final report

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Community Informant Survey

Objectives:

- Identify geographic areas to conduct interviews
- Convene PLACE workshop
- Train interviewers
- Schedule team visits
- Identify places where people meet new sex partners
- Collect data
- Enter data

Introduction

The community Informant survey is the first phase of the data gathering process. This is used to generate a list of possible PLACE sites based on reports by knowledgeable persons within the community. Community informants will be asked where people go to meet new sex partners or where sex is being sold. This information will be used to guide prevention efforts in identifying local sexual networks that may facilitate HIV transmission. Community informants may also be critical in identifying MSM sites and networks as these groups remain largely hidden and not easily accessed by prevention interventions.

What is the purpose of the Community Informant survey?

- To gather information from members of the public about possible sex site locations
- To identify trends in where persons go to meet new sex partners
- To identify covert sex work operations and discreet sites
- To identify new sites that we may be unaware of and dormant sites that may have re-emerged without our knowledge
- To track prevention coverage in the area
- To prioritize venues most in need of prevention programmes
- To identify specific names and addresses of sites and events where people meet new sex partners

How to decide where to go and who to interview

Before commencing training of interviewers ensure that the survey tool is finalized by the steering committee. The committee should have also advised on the geographic boundaries as well as the number of persons to be interviewed.

Interviewers should target locations where they are most likely to meet a wide cross section of people as well as persons that may be insightful. These locations include urban centres and areas where commercial activity is high, town Centres and high traffic areas and transportation hubs.

Community Informants may be persons that are well placed in the area and able to observe operations and activities as well as become informed by association. This may typically be found among people provide services:

- Transport operators
- Bus conductors
- Vendors
- Shopkeepers
- Security guards
- Food establishment staff
casinos
- Commuters
- Out of school youth
- Idle men

Train Interviewers

Identify a suitable venue that can comfortably fit all interviewers. Moveable desk and chairs ideal so that persons can take notes and rearrange the room for role plays and other interactive training activities. An entire day should be reserved for training. This training session should include an Introduction and overview of PLACE and the goals and objectives of conducting this research. Adequate time should be spent on ensuring that interviewers understand and appreciate the value in PLACE and as such should ensure quality data.

Training session should also emphasise the sensitive issues that arise from working with key populations such as sex workers and MSM. Interviewers should also be trained in asking potentially embarrassing or offensive questions.

The following tasks should be completed in preparation for training:

- Make sufficient copies of the interviewer guide and confidentiality agreement
- Make sufficient copies of the Community Informant questionnaires
- Procure office supplies and stationary (pens, pencils, paper, clip boards, flip chart paper and markers)
- Secure a laptop and projector for power point presentations

Community Informant Survey

Training Agenda

Welcome and Introduction	15 minutes
PLACE overview	45 minutes
Ethical principles and guidelines	30 minutes
Sensitivity of working with key populations	30 minutes
Break	
Interviewing skills	1 hour
Community Informant survey training	30 minutes
Logistics of field work	20 minutes
Practice interviewing	1 hour
Interview role play	45 minutes
Review and questions	30 minutes

The session should include general training on interviewing techniques. Interviewers should be comfortable with the material and display confidence administering questionnaires. Interviewers should practice administering the questionnaire during training. Role playing is also useful in preparing interviewers to deal with challenging situations in the field. Field supervisors should also be identified and trained for their specific role and additional responsibilities.

Interview Tips

- Stay neutral
- Ask questions as written
- Follow instructions
- Probe for answers
- Avoid leading interviewer responses
- Record responses clearly and accurately

COMMUNITY INFORMANT INTERVIEW – ONE PER INFORMANT

No.	Questions	Coding categories
	<p>Hello. I am working on a study conducted by the Jamaica Ministry of Health to identify where better health programs are needed. We want to talk to people like you in the community who we believe can assist us. The purpose of the study is to find out where people go to meet new sexual partners. Please tell us the names and locations of places where you think people meet new sexual partners. We don't want to know the names of any private residences. We are just interested in public places. If you tell us where these places are then we will visit them to see if they want to have a health program there. Telling us the names and locations of these public places should take between 5 and 10 minutes.</p> <p>We won't ask your name or any information about yourself. You will not be contacted in the future and your answers cannot be linked back to you. Your participation is completely voluntary and you may decline to answer any specific question or completely refuse to participate. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to these questions.</p>	
	<p>ASK EVERYONE: Could you tell me a few places or events where people go to meet new sex partners in <this community>? USE SPACE BELOW TO LIST PLACES. THEN PROBE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there places where people can pay for sex services, including oral sex, lap dances and full-body massage? Are there streets where sex workers solicit clients? • Where do men who have sex with men meet each other? • Are there other social events where people who meet each other may have a one night or brief sexual relationship? • Are there websites or chat rooms available to find someone for sex? 	

LIST OF SITES AND EVENTS

FOR EACH SITE OR EVENT LISTED HERE, FILL OUT A SITE/EVENT REPORT FORM. AFTER FORMS ARE COMPLETED, THANK THE RESPONDENT FOR THEIR TIME.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Write down each site named by the community informant in the space provided. Only one site should be written on each line. Notice that each line is numbered. This will be needed when filling out the site/event form

FOR EACH PLACE NAMED BY COMMUNITY INFORMANTS – FILL IN A1-A7

PLACE REPORT Interviewer Number: _____ Sequential CI Number: _____ Report: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8					
A1	Parish Circle one	Kingston 1 St Andrew 2 St Catherine 3 St. Mary 4	St Ann 5 St Elizabeth 6 Portland 7	St Thomas 8 Westmoreland 9 Hanover 10	Clarendon 11 Manchester 12 St James 13 Trelawny 14
A2	Community	Name: _____ Census Code: _____			
A3	Name(s) of place:				
A4	Type of place	Bar 1 Night Club 2 Exotic Club 3 Massage Parlor 4 Fast food restaurant 5	Internet (Specify type below) 6 Outdoor Site (Specify type below) 7 Event (Specify type below) 8 Other (Specify type below) 9		
A5	Specify type.				
A6	Key populations at place?	Sex workers? YES NO		MSM? YES NO	
A7	Address of Site/how to find it				

Example of PLACE site/event form used in the Jamaica PLACE study 2011

Wherever possible, site/event forms should be sorted immediately to address problems or queries and ensure data quality

Tips on filling out site/event form

- Each interviewer is assigned a unique interviewer number. This number should remain the same for each step of the PLACE survey.
- Sequential CI number refers the order in which the interviewer meets and interviews community informants. This means that for the first person interviewed 1 would be written as the sequential CI number, the second person interviewed would be 2, the third would be 3 and the numbering sequence continues until the last person is interviewed.

- The report number links the site/event form to the Community Informant Interview form. The report number for the site you are filling out should be same number as the site listed on the CI form. Therefore if there are 5 sites listed on the CI form there should be 5 site/event forms filled out.
- A1 asks the interviewer to circle the parish in which the interview is being conducted, NOT the parish where the site being named is located
- A2 write down the name of the community that the site is located. This is different from the name of the site
- A3 write down the name of the site as given by the community informant E.g. Gloria's Pub
- Continue to fill out the type of site and specify where needed.
- Ensure that as much address information for the site is collected, including street names and numbers, landmarks and directions. Bear in mind that Interviewers must be able to locate each site for verification.
- Interviewers should write down all sites identified by the informant regardless of familiarity with the location or the number of the number of informants that name the same site.

Field Supervisor duties

The Field supervisor is responsible for ensuring that there is adequate supply of Community informant questionnaires and Venue Report forms. The supervisor also organizes the group to meet at a mutual location before deployment. This is the final opportunity to address queries. Each interviewer should be given an interviewer number which links them to the questionnaires that they completed. The supervisor is also responsible for assigning target numbers and reminding interviewers of the profile of participants. At the end of data collection the supervisor collects the completed questionnaires and checks them for errors to be corrected immediately.

Collecting Community Informant Data

Interviewers should be assigned target areas based on the geographical boundaries identified by the steering communities as well as locations where the type of informed persons are most likely to be. Transport centres would be best to interview bus and taxi drivers, vendors and commuters. Shopping malls may also

have high traffic and a greater mix of type of informants. It is advisable for interviewers to travel in groups or pairs for security purposes.

Once a potential community informant is identified the interviewer should introduce themselves and explain the purpose of the study. The interviewer continues by first getting verbal consent and continuing to ask about places where persons go to meet new sex partners, complete with addresses. When the quota is met for the day, interviewers should regroup at a specified meeting location to turn the completed interview forms to the field supervisor.

How to manage CI data

The field supervisor should check each form for accuracy and completeness at the end of each day of interviews. Where necessary, interviewers should be asked to correct mistakes. The field supervisor should also tally the number of the number of site/event forms received in order to balance this off with the amount entered into the electronic database. This will reduce the likelihood of missing data when transferring from paper to an electronic medium.

Site/event forms should be sorted before presented for data entry. The field supervisor should go through all forms and batch them based on sites named by informants. This will prevent duplication of sites during data entry. It is however important the make note of the number of times that each site is named so that this may also be entered into the database. Some sites are more popular than others and therefore named more frequently. For example Club Exotica may be reported 25 times while Chocolate fantasy may only be named 4 times. There will also be several single entries.

A data entry programme such as Epi Info is highly recommended for use. This computer programme is available for free on the internet. If this type of software is not available an excel spreadsheet that captures all questions may be used.



Site/event forms counted and batched for data entry

At the end of data entry a list of sites for verification should be generated. The list should include names and addresses as was written on paper. See following page for example.

Parish	PLACE_ID	CI Reports	Community Name	A3 Name of place	A4 Type	Specify type in words	SW	MSM	Address
13	130001	4	MO BAY	BIG MANCORNER BAR	1		Y	N	NORTH LANE MO BAY
13	130002	3	MO BAY	BLUE BEATS	1		Y	Y	BESIDE MAGARITAVILLE
13	130003	3	MO BAY	CLOCK TOWER BAR AND GRILL	1		Y	Y	CORNER OF JARRETT STREET AND BARNETT STREET
13	130004	1	MO BAY	CULTURE BAR	1		Y	N	BESIDE VON'S PLAZA
13	130005	6	MO BAY	MOBAY PROPER	1		Y	Y	GLOUCESTER AVENUE
13	130006	3	MO BAY	CLUB	2	NIGHTCLUB	Y	N	CARAL CARDEN BEFARE REACHING STOP LIGHT
13	130007	16	MO BAY	CORAL CLIFF	2		Y	Y	ACROSS FROM MARGARITA VILLE, ON GLOUCESTER AVENUE
13	130008	2	MO BAY	CORAL GARDENS	2		Y	Y	IN FRONT CORAL GARDENS POLICE STATION ON THE MAIN ROAD
13	130009	2	MO BAY	EXODUS NIGHT	2		Y	N	NEAR AIR PORT ROUND ABOUT
13	130010	9	MO BAY	FLAMINGO'S GAMES AND LOUNGE	2		Y	Y	IRONSHORE BLUE DIAMOND
13	130011	33	MO BAY	MARGARITAVILLE	2		Y	Y	GLOUCESTER AVENUE, ON HIP STRIP
13	130012	5	MO BAY	MERCY NIGHT CLUB	2		Y	N	CAMBRIDGE, 1ST BUILDING ON DUCKETTS ROAD
13	130013	1	MO BAY	RE-HAB	2		Y	Y	GLOUSTER AVENUE
13	130014	6	MO BAY	ROOF TOP	2		Y	Y	UPSTAIRS CHINA DOLL ON STRAND STREET
13	130015	3	MO BAY	TRIPLE FANTASY	2		Y	N	ANCHOVY
13	130016	2	MO BAY	CLITTERS NIGHT CLUB	3		Y	N	JARRETT STREET
13	130017	2	MO BAY	FLAMINGO	3		Y	N	JARRETT STREET
13	130018	10	MO BAY	FRAY'S	3		Y	N	ST. JAMES STREET
13	130020	3	MO BAY	GOLD FINGER NIGHT CLUB	3		Y	Y	TOP MARKET STREET

St James List of Sites Selected for Verification August 16, 2011- Jamaica PLACE survey 2011

3

Site verification

Objectives:

- Train interviewers on venue verification
- Visit venues identified by community informants to confirm existence
- Collect data
- Enter data
- Estimate the number of sites/venues reached by prevention coverage

Introduction

Upon completion of Community Informant interviews, the data should be entered and a comprehensive list of sites where persons go to meet new sex partners should be produced. This list should ideally include the address for each site and directions so that the venue can easily be found for verification. Many of these sites may be unknown while some may be familiar and already reached by prevention interventions. Site verification is the process by which selected venues are located and visited in an effort to garner information about the characteristics of the venue and its patrons.

What is the purpose of site verification?

- First it needs to be known whether or not the named sites actually exist and if they can be located. Some sites may have closed down or changed locations, others may have changed name or known by several different names. All this needs to be verified to avoid confusion and duplication in counting.
- Verification will help determine the type of activities that take place at each venue, such as people meeting new partners, sex is being sold and clients being solicited
- Interviews conducted with knowledgeable persons at the sites will indicate the type of site, such as exotic club with dancers, brothel/massage parlours, bar, night club, restaurant, event based site, MSM/LGBT site, parks, plazas, malls among others
- Site verification also offers insight into the details of these sites e.g. number of sex works, number of patrons, number of staff, busy period, whether condoms are made available etc. This will be helpful in allocating resources for interventions.
- All sites selected should be visited for verification and a knowledgeable person on site should be interviewed regardless of interviewers' familiarity.



Some sites are easy to identify while others are more discreet and less visible

This should reduce bias and assumptions about the venue as well as unearth new information which would have otherwise been overlooked

- Verification of sites also serves the purpose of prioritizing sites for prevention efforts especially where resources may be limited

PLACE protocol decisions – Site Verification

The Site verification questionnaire should be completed and approved by the PLACE steering committee. Typical areas of concern that the questionnaire usually focuses on include:

Venue Profile	HIV/AIDS Prevention Issue	Demographic Information
Type of site	Condom availability at sites	Gender ratio of patrons
Busy times/ days	HIV Prevention activities at site	Age distribution at site
Activities	Potential for Condom distribution at site	Socio-economic background of patrons
Whether sex workers solicit clients	Potential for HIV testing at site	
Whether men meet new sex partners	Potential for HIV prevention cues to be displayed at site	
Whether drugs/alcohol is available		

Coding venues

Outdoor venues and venues without a physical structure may be difficult to characterise and define such as streets, truck stops and outdoor events. Homeless persons, drug users, MSM and sex workers often occupy abandoned buildings or

parks. The most appropriate definition and a coding system should be agreed on before entering the field. Inclusion of an “other” category is also an option to capture venues that were not thought of before. If “other” is selected then space should be allotted on the questionnaire for description. It is imperative that interviewers fully understand the coding system before the site verification questionnaire is administered.

Some venues have multiple characteristics that may apply to more than one code. It is important to classify the venue based on the type during which the high risk activity occurs. For example if the venue operates as a restaurant or bar but there is a massage parlour/brothel operating at the same location it should be coded as a massage parlour. Accuracy in classification will help to ensure that venues are adequately prioritized and appropriate prevention interventions are designed for the venue and its patrons.

Training

The training facilities should be similar to that which was used in the Community Informant training. The area should have moveable furniture for persons to sit and take notes as well as role play scenarios. In preparation for training the following tasks should be completed:

- Select a suitable venue
- Make sufficient copies of training schedule and Interviewer Guide
- Make sufficient copies (2 two copies per interviewer) of Site verification questionnaire
- Procure stationary and office supplies

A half day or at least four hours should be dedicated to Site Verification training. This opportunity should be used to go over the interview basics covered in the first training held in step one. Topics such as remaining neutral, non-judgemental, body language and not leading should be reinforced. These topics will be more important overtime as questions to be asked in the interviews become increasingly personal and sensitive. Emphasis should also be placed on following the instructions, written in bold on the questionnaire. Questions should also be asked exactly as stated on the questionnaire. The details of the logistics for carrying out the Site verification step should be outlined.

Interviewers should be given a copy of the site verification questionnaire and time should be allowed for individual perusal. Each question on the questionnaire will then be examined by the group including the correct coding for recording responses. This is done to ensure that the interviewers understand the questions and the purpose. After this is done interviewers should be placed in pairs to practice administering the questionnaire. Role plays are also useful in reinforcing interview tips and identifying areas that need strengthening.

Agenda	
Site Verification Training	
Welcome and Introductions	15 Mins
Debriefing- Community Informant Survey	20 Mins
Interview tips	45 Mins
Review of field work logistics	45 Mins
Break	
Site verification questionnaire training	1 Hour
Practice Interviewing	30 Mins
Role Play interviews	20 Mins
Question and Answers	30 Mins

Data Collection

Site verification interviews take more time to complete because more specific information about each site is being collected. Interviewers should be assigned sites based on the list generated from the community informant survey. When seeking someone to interview at these locations the interviewer must look for someone who is likely to be highly knowledgeable about the persons that visit the

site and the type of activities that take place there. The interviewer should ask what role the potential interviewee plays at the site. The following persons are likely to give the most useful information:

- Security guard
- Disk jockey
- Bar tender
- Exotic dancer
- Regular patron
- Cleaning staff
- Food vendor
- Manager/supervisor
- Other staff at the venue

Site verification interviews will reveal pertinent information about the site including: type of site, whether new sex partners meet there, if sex is sold there, drug and alcohol consumption, busy days and time. Information from the site verification will also help to determine which sites are sampled for the participant interviews.

How to Manage Site verification Data

Information collected during site verification should be entered into a database, preferably Epi Info. Data entry clerks should pay keen attention in order to eliminate possible mistakes. At the end of data entry a list of verified sites should be produced. From this list we should be able to clearly identify sites that sex work takes place or where people go to meet new sex partners. This final list will be used to select sites for further interviews with persons socializing or working at named sites.

Below is a sample of a list of sites selected for participant interviews

Obs	place_id	parish	name	malepatrons	femalepatrons	dancers	workers
1	20036	2	CHACOLATE CITY	37	37	4	4
2	20040	2	PABLO'S NIGHT CLUB	75	10	12	12
3	20049	1	CowBoy Ranch	75	125	7	14
4	20056	2	HUMMING BIRD DAY AND NIGHT	.	.	0	0
5	20057	2	Palais Royal	10	37	0	0
6	30005	3	Diamond night club	37	75	8	9
7	30014	3	Whisper Night Club	75	37	0	6
8	30016	3	CHILLS EXOTIC NIGHT CLUB	37	10	5	7
9	30017	3	CLUB ALTITUDE	10	37	10	14
10	30018	3	CLUB HONEY	10	10	0	1
11	30020	3	Cookies night club	10	75	10	13
12	30025	3	FLAMES NIGHT CLUB	37	10	9	10
13	30026	3	HENNESSY NIGHT CLUB	10	10	10	11
14	30028	3	Roxann's night club	15	15	16	21
15	30029	3	SUNSET EXOTIC NIGHT CLUB	37	10	10	11
16	30030	3	UNITY	37	10	0	1
17	30031	3	Vitaji night club	10	10	5	7
18	30043	3	Gateway Plaza	125	125	13	13
19	30084	3	Club Affrodiziac	125	125	0	1
20	30086	3	Vul-K-N night club and Loun	15	15	0	2
21	80002	8	Candy's Nite Club	37	10	7	7

This list shows the number and category of persons identified through site verification at each site. These numbers would have been calculated based on the number of persons identified at site verification. It is therefore imperative that reliable information is gathered at the site verification stage. During the PLACE survey process one stage directly affects the other therefore any inaccuracies in the first or second stage continues through to the end, unless found and addressed as early as possible.

4

Participant Interviews

Objectives:

- Identify venues to conduct interviews
- Decide on the number of persons to be interviewed
- Decide if bio-medical data will be collected and establish protocol
- Train interviewers on participant interviews
- Collect data
- Enter data

Introduction

The final interviews will be conducted among men and women socializing or working at PLACE sites. These participants are likely to be involved in sex work, either as sex workers or clients, patrons at venues, MSM, drug users, or workers/staff. The purpose of these interviews is to collect specific data about specific behaviours that put persons at these venues at an increased risk for HIV infection.

Information about social status and life experiences will be useful in understanding the underlying determinants of HIV risk. Questions will be asked about specific risk behaviours such as; condom use trends, number of sex partners and drug use will identify the proximate determinants. Bio-medical tests for HIV and other STIs will determine infection rates.

At this stage the interview team should be prepared to ask some very sensitive personal questions. The lab staff should also be prepared to work usually late hours, collecting samples for testing.

Participants interview questions

The participant interview questionnaire is designed to gather specific information about the target populations. Questions will focus on socio-demographics, venue visiting behaviours, sexual behaviours, substance use, and exposure to HIV prevention programmes.

The socio-demographic questions include:

- Age
- Gender
- Education
- Ever been homeless
- Ever been jailed

The venue visiting questions include:

- Frequency of visits- daily, several times per week, weekly, monthly
- Number of venues visited in one day/night
- Number of venues visited over a period

Sexual behaviour questions include:

- Age at first sex
- Number of new sexual partners in the last week, month, year
- Ever had sex for cash
- Condom use with new clients, regular clients, main partner
- Symptoms of STI
- Whether men met new male sex partners at site

Substance use questions include:

- Whether alcohol, marijuana, ecstasy, and other drugs are consumed
- Frequency of substance use
- Ever been intoxicated/high at site

Exposure to HIV intervention programmes:

- Ever seen an HIV poster or other IEC material
- Ever interacted with outreach staff
- Ever been tested for HIV

Preparing for participants Interviews

This stage of interviews may be intensive and requires much time to administer than previous questionnaires. Additionally the process may be more invasive at the PLACE site as relatively large number of persons will be interviewed. Participants will also be sampled from workers, patrons, dancers, clients and other staff. It is therefore critical that permission be sought from venue operators before visiting sites for interviews.

The steering committee should determine the number of persons to be interviewed total and the breakdown by category E.g. 300 sex workers, 100 female workers, 150 male patrons etc. This decision will be determined by the previous data collected at site verification. The committee will also decide what type biomedical tests, if any should be done.

If HIV and STI testing will be done then an anonymous system of linking questionnaires with samples and results must be developed for the protection of the participants. The laboratory staff will play a major role at this level and should therefore be included in interviewer training and logistics meetings/discussions.

Selecting venues for participant interviews

The PLACE steering committee conducts the sampling for venues where participant interviews will take place. They may choose to set inclusion criteria such as confirmed sex work activity at site based on site verification data. They may also choose to exclude sites based on geographic boundaries as well as outdoor events. All remaining sites may be randomly sampled. The number of participants to be interviewed at each venue will also be pre-determined by the steering committee. If for any reason these targets cannot be met, it should be communicated to the steering committee so that an alternative solution may be given without jeopardizing the survey. The gender distribution of participants will reflect the ratio as reported in the site verification database. The committee can however choose to over sample a gender depending on specific interest. E.g. oversampling females if interest is primarily in sex workers or oversampling of men if interest is more so in MSM.

Training

The venue specifications for training are similar to those required for previous training in community informant and site verification phases. Ensure that each interviewer has a copy of the questionnaire; this may include an anonymous answer sheet for extra sensitive questions. Training check list should include:

- Sufficient copies of questionnaires (at least 1 per interviewer)
- Transportation arrangements
- Stationary (pens, pencils, paper)
- Arrangements for refreshments

Agenda

Training-Participant Interviews

Welcome	10 Mins
Feedback on Site Verification	20 Mins
Overview/objectives of participant interview	40 Mins
Review of interviewer tips	30 Mins

Break

Review participant interview questionnaire	45 Mins
Practice interviewing	30 Mins
Role play interviews	30 Mins
Questions & Answers	20 Mins

Interviewers may be required to keep a log of their efforts in the field. This log should be reviewed before entering the field in order to reduce error due to unfamiliarity. Interviewers should introduce themselves and the purpose of the interview clearly before beginning the interview. This will reduce the number of incomplete questionnaires due to frustration with the length of the questionnaire or the sensitive nature of the questions. Interviewers must secure verbal informed consent before proceeding with administering the questionnaire.

During role playing interviews facilitators will be able to identify strengths and weaknesses in administering the questionnaire. There should be guided discussions on these issues and any others concerns about the questionnaire. It is advised that the facilitator goes through the questionnaire line by line and explore

possible areas for mistakes or confusion. Time should also be allowed towards the end of training for any other questions or need for further clarity.

Below is a sample of an interviewer log form:

INTERVIEWER NAME: _____

SUPERVISOR: _____

INTERVIEWER REPORT DATE: ____/____/____ Day/Month/Year

SITE: _____

PLACE_ID ____/_____

	STREET	CLUB WORKERS	MALE PATRONS	FEMALE PATRONS
NUMBER APPROACHED				
NUMBER REFUSED BEFORE INFORMED CONSENT				
NUMBER NOT ELIGIBLE OR REFUSED DURING/AFTER INFORMED CONSENT				
NUMBER COMPLETED				
Interviewer Comments				

Tips on filling out interviewer log

- Ensure that top part of the log is completed: Interviewer and supervisor names etc.
- Number approached should be broken down into the categories provided: street sex worker, club workers etc
- Number refused before informed consent are those that refused from introduction or even being approached
- Ineligible persons may be out of the age range for inclusion
- Persons may refuse during/after informed consent because they are uncomfortable with the questions or too time consuming
- Number completed includes all questions being answered and HIV/STI test done

There may need to be a separate meeting with field supervisors since the logistics may get increasingly complicated with much more accountability issues if HIV/STI testing is being conducted. The field supervisor will also have other paperwork to fill out such as a batch sheet and a supervisors report sheet. This information will

create a record of the interview process in the field. The supervisor will record the total number of persons approached for interviews including those that refused to participate. The supervisor will also make note of all the questionnaire numbers for questionnaires issued for each PLACE site visited.

Fill one per recruitment effort (A recruitment effort is each time participants are sought, such as at a site such as a bar is visited. If a venue is visited more than one time, fill out a separate Supervisor Report Form for each visit.)

Questions		Response Categories			
PLACE_ID ____ / ____		<div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div>/</div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div>/</div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div> </div> <div>Day Month Year</div>			
Name of site:					
TYPE: CIRCLE ONE: STREET DANCE_CLUB EVENT OTHER					
	TARGET NUMBER	NUMBER AT ARRIVAL	NUMBER AT DEPARTURE	NUMBER APPROACHED	NUMBER COMPLETED
STREET SEX WORKERS:					
FEMALE WORKERS					
FEMALE PATRONS:					
MALE PATRONS:					
TOTAL:					
HOW SUPPORTIVE WAS THE GATEKEEPER? ENTHUSIASTIC WILLING REFUSED NA					
HOW WILLING WERE WORKERS TO PARTICIPATE? ENTHUSIASTIC WILLING REFUSED NA					
HOW WILLING WERE PATRONS TO PARTICIPATE? ENTHUSIASTIC WILLING REFUSED NA					
Visit to place for recruitment: 1st 2nd 3rd		Number of interviewers working:			
QUESTIONNAIRE NUMBERS USED: LIST HERE					

The logistics for collecting data and conducting HIV/STI tests simultaneously must be clear to all field staff. The PLACE steering committee will decide whether the interview should be conducted first followed by HIV testing. The converse is to start with HIV testing and follow with the interview or interrupt interviews after demographic data is collected to facilitate HIV testing. The most efficient method with the least likelihood of confusion should be chosen. The chosen method will also be influenced by whether or not HIV testing is being done and biomedical samples collected. The length of time should be considered especially taking into account pre and post test counselling and returning HIV test results onsite.

If HIV testing tests are being conducted the following protocol is recommended. It was used in the Jamaica PLACE survey 2011 with much success.



A confidential area should be identified for conducting HIV/STI tests. Permission should be sought from proprietors/managers beforehand in order to conduct testing. They may also be able to assist with identifying a suitable space for confidential testing. Depending on the type of PLACE site the testing team may have to get very creative. Dressing rooms, bathrooms, bedrooms may have to be explored as options. Mobile testing units are the best option where they exist.

Managing testing samples and supplies

Where HIV and STI tests are being conducted by the lab staff, they can be relied on to manage the process under strict lab guidelines and standards. Where tests are being conducted by outreach staff, more caution should be exercised in quality control.

Testing supplies:

- Sufficient quantities of HIV rapid test kits (Determine, Unigold, Oraquick)
- Urine cups/vaginal swabs (STI screening)
- Lancets
- Capillary tubes
- Gloves
- Cotton
- Alcohol
- Sharps container (for appropriate disposal of medical waste)
- Outreach testing register/ lab forms and disease notification forms



Tips on HIV/STI testing in Outreach settings:

1. Pack test kits in a cool dry portable container (5 quart cooler recommended).
2. Pack adequate number of tests based on the target numbers for each venue. Do not over pack; take no more than five extra tests to prevent wastage where storage conditions may be unfavourable.
3. Unused test kits should be returned to the lab or stored under appropriate conditions to avoid spoilage.
4. Ensure that sufficient testing supplies are packed in relation to the number of test kits and testing targets (lancets, capillary tubes, cotton etc.)
5. Where urine samples are being collected ensure that sufficient cups are packed and they are appropriately labelled in order to return results at a later date.
6. Where possible pipet urine into solution onsite or within a reasonable timeframe according to packaging instructions. If urine cannot be pipetted on site samples should be stored in a cool dry place (10 quart cooler recommended) and transported to the lab within 8 hours.

7. If necessary transportation should be pre- arranged to have urine, unused test kits and sharps returned to the lab within an appropriate time frame.
8. Where possible pack portable lighting
9. The supervisor should secure confidential form

Data Entry

The data entry process in this phase of the survey is similar to the previous phases. At the end of each day of interviews conducted in the field, the field coordinator checks each questionnaire for accuracy, legibility and any other discrepancy. The interviewers are consulted for clarification as soon as possible.

Two separate databases will be needed at this stage of the process. One will be used for entering data on the HIV/STI tests conducted and the other will capture information gathered from interviews. The data for HIV/STI tests conducted can be entered on an excel spread sheet. Interview data should be entered into Epi Info, Epi Data, or a similar programme capable of double entry data.

5

Using PLACE results to improve programmes

Objectives:

- Clean data and document the process
- Prepare PLACE survey results using tables and graphs
- Conduct dissemination meetings
- Improve HIV prevention programmes using new available PLACE data
- Identify gaps in current programmes
- Devise strategies to address gaps

Introduction

In the final stages of the PLACE method a report should be compiled. Field work should be clearly documented as well as data collection methods. This is an opportunity to ensure data collection and do additional data cleaning where necessary. This report will include tables and graphs reflecting the results of the survey. The report should also highlight gaps in current programmes as well as make recommendations for improvements. Once the report is compiled it should be disseminated among partners and stakeholders for feedback.

Programme managers will now have useful information to guide future targeted interventions geared at controlling the local HIV epidemic. Maps of priority venues and programme coverage will help teams to work more efficiently especially where resources are scarce.

Additional analysis of the PLACE survey data may be done to assess other critical concerns as they arise from more informed discussions. Size estimates of sex work and MSM populations may be calculated. Age categorization of key populations may also be of concern as well as risk assumptions based on age, gender or types of partnerships. Feedback generated from discussions during dissemination may also drive the design of future surveys.

Data Cleaning and Field work Documentation

Every effort should be made to ensure data quality and maintain the integrity of the survey methodology. At the end of field work the following should be clearly identified:

- List of venues/sites obtained from community informant interviews
- Venue reports from each site named by the community informant
- Characteristics of sites/venues from the site verification visits and interviews
- Database with data from patron interviews

Before compiling the PLACE report, data should be reviewed and cleaned. This includes:

- Identifying duplications in the database

- Identify if and where there may be missing data and determine if this may compromise quality
- Check to ensure that the number of interviews recorded in the database equals the number of actual interviews conducted.
- Conduct consistency checks to ensure that persons who answered questions about male issues were men and female specific questions were female.

Discrepancies should be resolved and changes made to the database should be documented for data quality and cleaning.

Identify Priority Communities and Venues

Where possible maps should be provided that illustrate the geographical distribution of sites. Maps can be used to determine visually, areas that are underserved or high transmission zones. Maps can be used to illustrate varying types of PLACE sites and size of these sites. Other maps can show gaps in condom distribution and availability as well as access to HIV testing.

Other options for visual illustrations are tables and lists. Each parish of Health Region can prepare comprehensive lists of PLACE sites by name and addresses and tick off whether condoms are available and routine HIV testing is conducted. From this list priority sites may be selected for targeted prevention interventions. Priority sites may be selected based on the following:

Popular venues	Sites that are named frequently by community informants
Large Venues	Sites with a large number of patrons
Key population specific venues	Venues frequented by key populations: MSM, Sex workers, youth
Overlap venues	Sites patronised by two or more key populations
High partnership venues	Socializing sites where people report high rate of new partnering

Developing strategies to reach key populations

PLACE survey results should act as a guide that also forms the basis of interventions designed for reaching key populations. High risk behaviours that increase likelihood of transmission is tied to the venue that these behaviours take place. As a result PLACE offers a more comprehensive approach to coordinating prevention efforts.

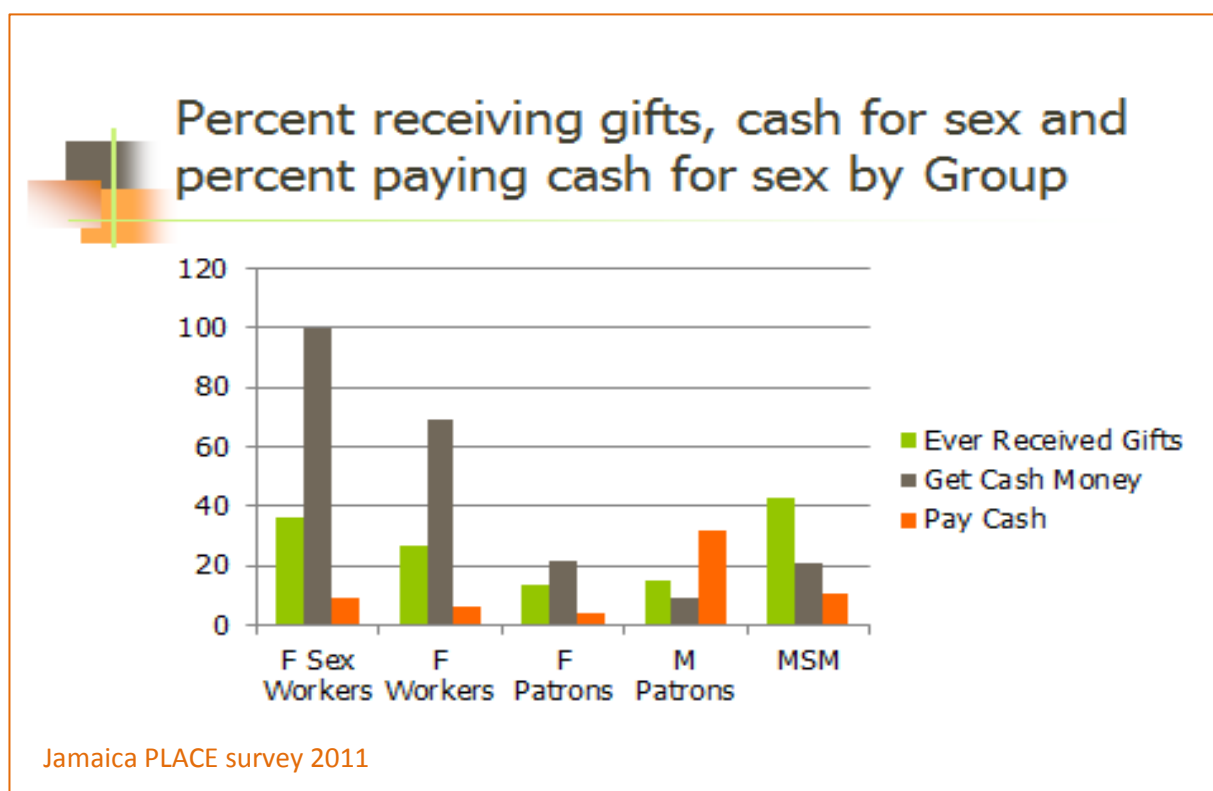
Prevalence of HIV and other STIs among Key Populations

	Female Workers	Female Patrons	Female SW	Male Patrons	MSM
HIV	4.7	0.8	4.1	0.5	32.9
Ever* Syphilis	9.2	6.1	8.7	4.0	8.6
Gonorrhoea	9.4	6.3	7.1	4.5	1.8
Chlamydia	19.4	18.2	16.3	21.7	9.0

Jamaica PLACE survey 2011

The Jamaica PLACE survey 2012 was particularly useful in redirecting prevention strategies targeting female sex workers. The table above indicates that female workers at PLACE sites were often times at a more elevated risk than self-identifying sex workers. Prevention efforts have previously focussed primarily on sex workers and patrons while staff was reached on a much smaller scale. The survey results point to a need to be more inclusive and consider everyone at the venues/sites to be at risk and in need of prevention services.


The consistently high HIV prevalence among men that have sex with men represents an on-going fight to impact this population. It is a clear indication that current strategies are not effective and need to be revised.



The graph above offers an explanation of the high HIV/STI rates among female workers at PLACE sites. Although these women did not identify as sex workers but rather as barmaids, waitresses, supervisors, vendors etc. they seem to be engaging in sex work. A significant number reported exchanging sex for cash and great number also reported more than two sex partners in the past four weeks.

Results from the PLACE survey found that female workers were engaging in high risk behaviours. As such they also needed priority access to condoms, HIV/STI testing, risk reduction conversations etc.

Access to HIV services



	2007 MSM	2011 MSM	2011 SW
Visited Health Centre past year	31%	49.2	--
Was satisfied with care received	82%	85.2	--
Ever had HIV test	58%	78.8	92.4
Of those, received result	93%	92.8	92.1
Of those, Counselling	72%	78.8	80.3
HIV test past 12 months	33%	58.1	72.5
Had seen the HIV risk card	64%	76.6	33.6

Jamaica PLACE survey 2011

The PLACE method is also useful in monitoring the progress of programmes and identifying gaps. The table above indicates and improvement in access to HIV testing and counselling as well as improvement in clinic attendance among MSM.

PLACE Site Based Interventions

Site based interventions are designed with the PLACE survey findings as a guide. Once the priority venues are identified Outreach Workers are deployed to work with key populations at these locations. Ideally the Outreach worker should be trained in:

- Behaviour Change Communication Theories
- Basic HIV/STI facts
- Motivational Interviewing
- Human Sexuality
- Values Clarification

- Self-efficacy
- Stigma and Discrimination Reduction
- Conducting Risk Reduction Conversations
- Voluntary Counselling and Testing
- Condom Negotiation and Condom Skills Building



An Outreach Worker conducting risk reduction conversations at a street PLACE site with a female sex

Outreach workers should be prepared to work unsociable hours and in marginalised communities. The package of prevention services to be offered includes: free condom and lubricant distribution, condom negotiations and condom demonstrations to ensure efficacy, risk reduction conversations and HIV testing where conditions allow. Outreach Workers should also be able to provide referrals for services such as clinics, private physicians, health care providers that are “friendly” to key populations.

Repeat interactions are of significant value as these help to reinforce messages and improve the client’s newly acquired skills. Repeat contact can also help the client to progress along the stages of change continuum that is required to maintain changes in behaviour. It is important to build the trust and confidence of key populations and gatekeepers. A strong relationship with gatekeepers and clients will ensure access to priority populations which are often difficult to reach. This will also ensure participation in prevention programmes and activities.



An outreach worker conducting condom demonstrations at a massage parlour/brothel

The Empowerment Approach

PLACE survey results will identify some underlying determinants that may increase susceptibility to HIV transmission. These often include: low literacy, lack of education opportunity, unemployment, homelessness, poverty, being socially marginalised among other factors. Lack of self-esteem, self-worth and self-efficacy creates barriers to prevention information as well as drives risk behaviours.

The empowerment approach seeks to address some of these issues in a workshop setting where more time can be spent with a captive key population audience. Persons are invited into a safe space where they feel comfortable and accepted among their peers. The workshop provides an excellent opportunity to drive home prevention methods as well as increase HIV/STI knowledge. Addressing social vulnerability is another key component of these empowerment workshops. Organisations are invited to the workshops include:

- Banks- offer opportunities for starting saving accounts and accessing small business loans
- Training Institutions- offer skills training as well as literacy and numeracy training
- Government Social Services- birth certificates, national insurance schemes, poverty alleviation programmes
- Parenting organisation- parenting training
- Conflict resolution, self defence



A group of female sex workers participating in an empowerment workshop

Clients may also become eligible for income generation grants and education/training grants.

A similar intervention approach is implemented for MSM and unattached youth. The content is however specific to the issues that are unique to the particular group. The empowerment workshops are usually highly interactive and include: role playing, drama, poetry and song writing as a means of relaying pertinent HIV prevention messages.

Appendices

The following forms and questionnaires may be adopted but should be tailored with the local context in mind. Key populations are not a homogenous group; variations in attitudes and behaviour are shaped by culture, norms and other social factors. As such there may be peculiarities that are not shared among regions and communities. Much care should be taken at the PLACE committee level to ensure that pertinent and appropriate questions are being asked in order to ensure the most useful and effective outcome.

Community Informant Survey

COMMUNITY INFORMANT INTERVIEW – ONE PER INFORMANT

No.	Questions	Coding categories
	<p>Hello. I am working on a study conducted by the Jamaica Ministry of Health to identify where better health programs are needed. We want to talk to people like you in the community who we believe can assist us. The purpose of the study is to find out where people go to meet new sexual partners. Please tell us the names and locations of places where you think people meet new sexual partners. We don't want to know the names of any private residences. We are just interested in public places. If you tell us where these places are then we will visit them to see if they want to have a health program there. Telling us the names and locations of these public places should take between 5 and 10 minutes.</p> <p>We won't ask your name or any information about yourself. You will not be contacted in the future and your answers cannot be linked back to you. Your participation is completely voluntary and you may decline to answer any specific question or completely refuse to participate. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to these questions.</p>	
	<p>ASK EVERYONE: Could you tell me a few places or events where people go to meet new sex partners in <this community>? USE SPACE BELOW TO LIST PLACES. THEN PROBE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there places where people can pay for sex services, including oral sex, lap dances and full-body massage? Are there streets where sex workers solicit clients? • Where do men who have sex with men meet each other? • Are there other social events where people who meet each other may have a one night or brief sexual relationship? • Are there websites or chat rooms available to find someone for sex? 	

LIST OF SITES AND EVENTS

FOR EACH SITE OR EVENT LISTED HERE, FILL OUT A SITE/EVENT REPORT FORM. AFTER FORMS ARE COMPLETED, THANK THE RESPONDENT FOR THEIR TIME.

9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____

Venue and Event Report

FOR EACH PLACE NAMED BY COMMUNITY INFORMANTS – FILL IN A1-A7.

PLACE REPORT Interviewer Number: _____ Sequential CI Number: _____ Report: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8					
A1	Parish Circle 1	Kingston 1 St Andrew 2 St Catherine 3 St. Mary 4	St Ann 5 St Elizabeth 6 Portland 7	St Thomas 8 Westmoreland 9 Hanover 10	Clarendon 11 Manchester 12 St James 13 Trelawny 14
A2	Community	Name: _____ Census Code: _____			
A3	Name(s) of place:				
A4	Type of place	Bar 1 Night Club 2 Exotic Club 3 Massage Parlor 4 Fast food restaurant 5	Internet (Specify type below) 6 Outdoor Site (Specify type below) 7 Event (Specify type below) 8 Other (Specify type below) 9		
A5	Specify type.				
A6	Key populations at place?	Sex workers? YES NO MSM? YES NO			
A7	Address of Site/how to find it				

Site Verification Questionnaire

SITE AND EVENT QUESTIONNAIRE

B1 PLACE ID Site Number: _____

No.	Questions	Coding Categories
B2-B4	B2 Interviewer Number: _____ B3 Initials: _____ B4 Date (DD/MM/YY): ____/____/____	
B5	Parish Of Place Circle 1 KINGSTON 1 ST ANDREW 2 ST CATHERINE 3	ST. MARY 4 ST ANN 5 ST ELIZABETH 6 PORTLAND 7 ST THOMAS 8 WESTMORELAND 9 HANOVER 10 CLARENDON 11 MANCHESTER 12 ST JAMES 13 TRELAWNY 14
B6a	Name and Type of PLACE from CI Reports:	
B6b	Actual Name Of Place:	
B7	Actual Community Where Site/Event Is Located:	
B8	Correct Address / Directions	
B9	Type Of Place BAR 1 NIGHT CLUB 2 EXOTIC CLUB / SEX SHOP 3 FAST FOOD / RESTAURANT / INTERNET CAFE 4 OUTDOOR HANG OUT SPOT / PARK/ SW SITE 5 HOTEL/ MOTEL /GUESTHOUSE 10	CAMPUS SITE 11 MALL/ PLAZA 12 INTERNET SITE 13 DAY OF WEEK EVENT OR DANCE 16 OTHER INDOOR SITE 86 OTHER INDOOR EVENT 87 OTHER OUTDOOR SITE 88 OTHER OUTDOOR EVENT 89
B10	Describe Type Of Site/Event In Words.	
B11	Role Of Respondent At Site	STAFF 1 SECURITY GUARD 2 PATRON 3 VENDOR IN AREA 4 SEX WORKER 5 STUDENT 6 B11A OTHER (SPECIFY) : _____ 7

No.	Questions	Coding Categories																											
B12	Interviewer Opinion: How knowledgeable is this respondent likely to be about the activities and patrons at the site?	EXTREMELY KNOWLEDGEABLE 1 KNOWLEDGEABLE 2 NOT VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE 3																											
<p>Hello. I am working on a study approved by the Ministry of Health in Jamaica. We want to talk to people like you who know about this community. The purpose of the study is to identify where better health programs are needed to prevent the spread of diseases that are transmitted by sex. I would like to ask you some questions about activities that occur at this place, the people who come here, and programs that may take place here. The interview should take between 20-30 minutes of your time. I won't ask your name or any other identifying information. Your participation is completely voluntary and you may decline to answer any question or completely refuse to participate. We appreciate your help responding to these questions, even though we cannot financially compensate you for your time. You may not personally benefit directly from the study, but the results may be used to plan a new health program for this area. This is what we will do with the information you give us. Your answers will be recorded on a paper that only identifies this place with a number. Your name will not be recorded anywhere and we won't ask any personal information about you except to make sure you are age 18 or older. We are asking people these questions at more than one hundred places in this area. The questionnaires will be kept in a locked cabinet. The only people who will see the questionnaires are people working on this study. An ethical review board has reviewed this study. If you have any questions ask Lovette Byfield ,Ministry of Health, 967-1100.</p>																													
B13	Questions To Respondent Begin Here: ARE YOU WILLING TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS? If Respondent Refuses, Find Another.	YES 1 NO 2																											
B14a B14b	Was An Interview Completed? If Not Why Not?	YES 1 NO BECAUSE: NO WILLING RESPONDENT 2 ALL POTENTIAL RESPONDENTS TOO YOUNG 3 SITE CLOSED TEMPORARILY 4 SITE CLOSED PERMANENTLY OR NO LONGER A SITE 5 OTHER(SPECIFY REASON): 8																											
B15	HOW MANY YEARS HAS THIS SITE BEEN IN OPERATION?	< 1 YEAR 1 1-2 YEARS 2 3-5 YEARS 3 MORE THAN 5 YEARS 4 NOT APPLICABLE 9																											
B16a- B16h	WHICH TYPES OF ACTIVITIES TAKE PLACE HERE? Circle Yes Or No For Each.	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>YES</th><th>NO</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A ALCOHOL (BEER OR TONIC WINE) CONSUMED</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>B ECSTASY USED ONSITE</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>C CRACK/COCAINE USED ONSITE</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>D EXOTIC OR GO-GO DANCING</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>E SEX ON STAGE</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>F MUSIC (LIVE OR RECORDED)</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>G MASSAGE</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>H PEOPLE WAITING FOR A BUS OR TAXI</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		YES	NO	A ALCOHOL (BEER OR TONIC WINE) CONSUMED	1	2	B ECSTASY USED ONSITE	1	2	C CRACK/COCAINE USED ONSITE	1	2	D EXOTIC OR GO-GO DANCING	1	2	E SEX ON STAGE	1	2	F MUSIC (LIVE OR RECORDED)	1	2	G MASSAGE	1	2	H PEOPLE WAITING FOR A BUS OR TAXI	1	2
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B17a- B1b	I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT PEOPLE MEET SEXUAL PARTNERS AT PLACES LIKE THIS. DO..... Read List.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td><td>YES</td><td>NO</td><td>DK</td></tr> <tr> <td>A DO MEN MEET NEW FEMALE SEXUAL PARTNERS HERE?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>B DO WOMEN MEET NEW MALE SEX PARTNERS HERE?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>C DO MEN COME HERE TO BUY SEX FROM WOMEN?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>D DOES SOMEONE ONSITE HELP PARTNERS HOOK UP?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>E DO FEMALE SEX WORKERS COME HERE TO FIND CUSTOMERS?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> </table>		YES	NO	DK	A DO MEN MEET NEW FEMALE SEXUAL PARTNERS HERE?	1	2	8	B DO WOMEN MEET NEW MALE SEX PARTNERS HERE?	1	2	8	C DO MEN COME HERE TO BUY SEX FROM WOMEN?	1	2	8	D DOES SOMEONE ONSITE HELP PARTNERS HOOK UP?	1	2	8	E DO FEMALE SEX WORKERS COME HERE TO FIND CUSTOMERS?	1	2	8												
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B17c- B17j	Continued.... I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT PEOPLE MEET SEXUAL PARTNERS AT PLACES LIKE THIS. DO..... Read List.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td><td>YES</td><td>NO</td><td>DK</td></tr> <tr> <td>F DO ANY MALE STAFF MEET NEW SEXUAL PARTNERS HERE?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>G DO ANY FEMALE STAFF MEET NEW SEXUAL PARTNERS HERE?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>H CAN PEOPLE HAVE SEX ONSITE?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>I DO GAY MEN MEET MALE SEX PARTNERS HERE?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>J DO GAY MEN WHO ARE SEX WORKERS COME HERE TO FIND CUSTOMERS?</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>8</td></tr> </table>		YES	NO	DK	F DO ANY MALE STAFF MEET NEW SEXUAL PARTNERS HERE?	1	2	8	G DO ANY FEMALE STAFF MEET NEW SEXUAL PARTNERS HERE?	1	2	8	H CAN PEOPLE HAVE SEX ONSITE?	1	2	8	I DO GAY MEN MEET MALE SEX PARTNERS HERE?	1	2	8	J DO GAY MEN WHO ARE SEX WORKERS COME HERE TO FIND CUSTOMERS?	1	2	8												
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B18	WHEN DO SEX WORKERS COME HERE?	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>EVERY DAY /NIGHT</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>NONE/ NOT AT ALL</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>SOME DAYS/NIGHTS</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	EVERY DAY /NIGHT	1	NONE/ NOT AT ALL	2	SOME DAYS/NIGHTS	3																														
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B19	DOES THIS PLACE HAVE SPECIAL DAYS OR NIGHTS?	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>NO SPECIAL DAYS OR NIGHTS:</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr> <td>YES, SPECIAL TIMES (specify below)</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	NO SPECIAL DAYS OR NIGHTS:	0	YES, SPECIAL TIMES (specify below)	1																																
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B20	A NAME OF SPECIAL: _____ B HOW OFTEN: _____ TIME: _____ AM/PM TO _____ AM/PM																																					
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B22a- B22e	A WHAT IS THE BUSIEST DAY OF THE WEEK HERE? Circle 1. B_C WHAT ARE THE BUSIEST HOURS ON THAT DAY? D_E DURING THAT TIME, HOW MANY MEN AND WOMEN DO YOU EXPECT TO BE SOCIALIZING AT THIS SITE? Read Options.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="4">A : MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">B: BUSY HOURS BEGIN: _____ AM/ PM C HOURS END: _____ AM /PM</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>D MEN:</td><td colspan="2">E WOMEN :</td></tr> <tr> <td>FEWER THAN 25</td><td>1</td><td colspan="2">1</td></tr> <tr> <td>25-50</td><td>2</td><td colspan="2">2</td></tr> <tr> <td>51-100</td><td>3</td><td colspan="2">3</td></tr> <tr> <td>101-150</td><td>4</td><td colspan="2">4</td></tr> <tr> <td>151-200</td><td>5</td><td colspan="2">5</td></tr> <tr> <td>MORE THAN 200</td><td>6</td><td colspan="2">6</td></tr> </table>	A : MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY				B: BUSY HOURS BEGIN: _____ AM/ PM C HOURS END: _____ AM /PM					D MEN:	E WOMEN :		FEWER THAN 25	1	1		25-50	2	2		51-100	3	3		101-150	4	4		151-200	5	5		MORE THAN 200	6	6	
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No.	Questions	Coding Categories
B23a- B23j	WHAT TYPES OF WORKERS ARE AT THIS SITE? If There Are Zero Workers Of A Certain Type, Write Zero "0".	<div style="text-align: right;">YES NO</div> <div style="text-align: right;">A. ANY FEMALE DANCERS? 1 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">B. IF YES: NUMBER OF FEMALE DANCERS ON A BUSY NIGHT: _____</div> <div style="text-align: right;">C. ANY MALE DANCERS? 1 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">D. IF YES: NUMBER OF MALE DANCERS ON A BUSY NIGHT: _____</div> <div style="text-align: right;">E. ANY PAID STAFF EXCLUDING DANCERS? 1 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">F. IF YES NUMBER OF MALE STAFF EXCLUDING DANCERS: _____</div> <div style="text-align: right;">G. IF YES NUMBER OF FEMALE STAFF EXCLUDING DANCERS: _____ H.</div> <div style="text-align: right;">ON A BUSY NIGHT ANY SEX WORKERS ON SITE? 1 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">IF YES HOW MANY SEX WORKERS?</div> <div style="text-align: right;">I. HOW MANY FEMALE SEX WORKERS (EXCLUDING DANCERS) _____</div> <div style="text-align: right;">J. HOW MANY MALE SEX WORKERS (EXCLUDING DANCERS)? _____</div>
B24a- B24d	IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (SINCE PUT IN DATE), HAVE THERE BEEN ANY HIV PREVENTION ACTIVITIES AT THIS SITE? HAS THERE BEEN..... Ask Each.	<div style="text-align: right;">YES NO DK</div> <div style="text-align: right;">A. ANY HIV/AIDS PREVENTION? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">B. ANY CONDOM PROMOTION? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">C ANY PERSONS ACTUALLY TESTED ONSITE FOR HIV? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">D ANY SAFER SEX EDUCATION BY OUTREACH WORKERS? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">E. ANY OUTREACH THROUGH SEX WORK PEER EDUCATORS? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">F. ANY OUTREACH THROUGH INFLUENTIAL STAFF? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">G. ANY OUTREACH OR PREVENTION BY MOH? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">H. ANY OUTREACH OR PREVENTION BY JAS? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">I. ANY OUTREACH OR PREVENTION BY RED CROSS? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">J. ANY OUTREACH BY ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION? 1 2 9</div> <div style="text-align: right;">K. IF YES: WHAT ORGANIZATION: _____</div>
B25	IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, HOW OFTEN HAVE CONDOMS BEEN AVAILABLE HERE?	<div style="text-align: right;">ALWAYS 1</div> <div style="text-align: right;">SOMETIMES 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">NEVER 3</div> <div style="text-align: right;">DON'T KNOW 8</div>
B26	CAN I GET A CONDOM HERE NOW? IF YES, CAN I SEE ONE?	<div style="text-align: right;">YES CONDOMS HERE BUT YOU CANT SEE ONE 1</div> <div style="text-align: right;">YES CONDOMS HERE AND A CONDOM WAS SEEN 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">NO CONDOMS HERE NOW 3</div>
B27a B27b B27c B27d	Interviewer Observation: Evidence Of HIV/AIDS Prevention Activities Noted By Interviewer At The Site	<div style="text-align: right;">YES NO</div> <div style="text-align: right;">A ANY HIV/AIDS POSTERS DISPLAYED? 1 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">B ANY CONDOM PROMOTION OR USE POSTERS? 1 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">C. CONDOMS VISIBLE? 1 2</div> <div style="text-align: right;">D CONDOMS FOR SALE ON SITE? 1 2</div>

No.	Questions	Coding Categories
B28	WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE CONTACT INFORMATION IN CASE WE WANT TO DO SOME OUTREACH ACTIVITIES HERE?	DECLINED TO GIVE CONTACT INFORMATION ____ NAME: _____ MOBILE: _____
B29	Interviewer Opinion How Supportive Are Gatekeepers Regarding Safe Sex Practices At The Site?	VERY SUPPORTIVE 1 SUPPORTIVE 2 NOT SUPPORTIVE 3 VERY UNSUPPORTIVE 4 DO NOT KNOW 5 NO GATEKEEPERS 9
B30	Interviewer's Prevention Suggestions for Place:	