

AUYVC ECM MEETING IN JOHANNESBURG: 31st October to 2nd November, 2018.

GENERAL FEEDBACK ON GROUP WORK

A. COMMON CHALLENGES FOR BOTH GROUPS:

- Budget allocation for ECM
- Lack of capacity building
- Work at national level does not trickle down to small levels of government like municipality
- The Gender is the least funded in the government
- Lack of coordination
- Unwillingness to share information
- Lack of stakeholder engagement
- Limited Resources such as funding
- Logistics shortage such as (laptop, internet, proper working environment, lack of office space
- Sidelined from ECM related activities
- Lack of integration
- Suspicion (mistrust)

B. COUNTRY SPECIFIC CHALLENGES

1. Zimbabwe:

- ✚ Religious practices
- ✚ Family and peer pressure

2. Malawi:

- ✚ Family and peer pressure
- ✚ Cultural practices

3. Egypt:

- ✚ Cultural practices
- ✚ Family and peer pressure
- ✚ Lack Trust form the host organization
- ✚ Challenges with the work permit
- ✚ Office space problem in the host organization

4. CHAD:

- ✚ Sexual Harassment (Unprofessional working environment)
- ✚ Political Instability (Volatile situation)
- ✚ Difficult living condition

- ✚ Constant change of leadership
- ✚ Cultural shock

5. **LESOTHO:**

- ✚ Limited funding
- ✚ Logistics
- ✚ Geographical barriers

6. **ETHIOPIA:**

- ✚ Age, title, perception, personality etc...

C. **CHALLENGES RELATED TO AUC:**

- ✚ Communication gap between host country and the AUC and volunteers.
- ✚ Responding to emails on the side of the AUC is very slow.
- ✚ Lack of a focal person that deals volunteers
- ✚ There is no clear mandate between AUC and the host organization (Host agreement).
- ✚ Inadequate remuneration
- ✚ Training was not sufficient on ECM
- ✚ Lack of feedback from the AUC
- ✚ Proper communication channel between the AUYVC and the AUC

D. **General Recommendations:**

- The country should commit to making sure that right paper work is handled for the AUYVC
- Improved communication between AUYVC and AUC
- Better communication between the Social Affairs coordinator and the Ministry's technical staff, there has to be contact details from the Ministry the AUC is working with
- Support mechanisms of experts
- Mentorship
- Increase strategic partnership by the host organization with stakeholders to yield better financial resources.
- The AUC should provide logistics for volunteers such as laptops.
- The AUC should establish a clear TOR for the host country.
- Developing a package of orientation or induction for the host countries.
- Leaning in activities related to ECM.

- Volunteers should be trained in order to increase their capacity on how to prevent and handle cases of sexual harassment.
- The AUC should assess and consider reviewing the remuneration of volunteers.
- Organizing a forum for volunteers to share experiences and lessons learnt.
- The AUC should organize mentorship or TOT for volunteers.