



## Quality Action Joint Action on Improving HIV Prevention

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European Commission  
DG Health & Consumers

### SUMMARY

Rates of HIV diagnoses remain high among key populations and vary in different regions of the EU. **Quality Action** aims to increase the effectiveness of HIV prevention in Europe through the use of **practical Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Improvement (QI) tools**. Quality Action is the EU co-funded Joint Action with 25 associated and 19 collaborating partners that started in March 2013 and will run for three years.

### OBJECTIVES

The general objective of Quality Action is to improve the quality of the response to HIV and AIDS in Europe. Quality Action will: 1) integrate evidence-based quality assurance and quality improvement practices into HIV prevention across Europe; 2) build a network of trained HIV prevention stakeholders to apply practical QA/QI tools to projects targeting priority groups; 3) mainstream QA/QI into HIV prevention through development and dissemination of an agreed Charter for Quality in HIV prevention as well as policy guidance.

Quality Action contributes to the implementation of the Communication of the European Commission: 'Combating HIV/AIDS in the European Union and neighbouring countries (2009 -2013) and the Action Plan 2014-2016.

### METHODOLOGY

Five tools for QS/QI were developed and adapted in an iterative, theory-based process. Standardized trainings for the tool application is provided. The capacity building includes practice-based learning as well as e-learning. The practical application of the tools will be evaluated and the results will be used to develop a 'Charter for Quality in HIV Prevention' with agreed quality principles and criteria to improve quality. A Policy Kit will promote the integration of QA/QI into HIV prevention strategies, policies and action plans at the European, regional and member state levels.

### WP COORDINATION

WP Leader: Federal Centre for Health Education, BZgA (Germany)

BZgA is responsible for the overall management of Quality Action: coordination, financial management, problem solving and reporting to the CHAFAE. BZgA also convenes the Steering Group and the Advisory Group.

### WP DISSEMINATION

WP Leader: EuroHealthNet

EuroHealthNet coordinates the dissemination activities of Quality Action. This includes the development of a visual identity, website ([www.qualityaction.eu](http://www.qualityaction.eu)) and dissemination materials. It also entails the organisation of the Quality Action conference.

### WP EVALUATION

WP Leader: Institute of Tropical Medicine ITM (Belgium)

ITM evaluates Quality Action. It reports on the project's objectives using qualitative and quantitative methods for both process and outcome evaluation, and assess the future potential of QA/QI for HIV prevention across Europe.

This project has received funding from the European Union within the framework of the EU Public Health Programme 2008-2013  
Years of the Project: 2013 - 2016  
Total cost 3 530 012 euro out of which 1 499 571 euro EU contribution  
Acknowledgements: To all persons who are participating in the project and applying the QA/QI tools. To the Advisory Board members and to the EC Commission for co-financing it.

**Project coordinator:** Bundeszentrale für gesundheitliche Aufklärung, Germany

**Partners:** 1. EuroHealthNet, Belgium; 2. Prince Leopold Institute for Tropical Medicine - Foundation of Public Utility, Belgium; 3. Folkhälsomyndigheten, Sweden; 4. The Sexual Health Centre Ltd, Ireland; 5. Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe e.V., Germany; 6. Public Health England, UK; 7. Aids Hilfe Wien, Austria; 8. Sensoa vzw, Belgium; 9. Central National Institute of Public Health, Croatia; 10. HELP udruga za pomoc mladima, Croatia; 11. National Institute for Health Development, Estonia; 12. Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Greece;

### RESULTS

Quality Action has developed and adapted **five practical QA/QI tools and support materials**.

Quality Action has **trained more than 100 HIV prevention experts** in one or more of the five Quality Action tools during European-level training workshops. National-level training reaches additional stakeholders.

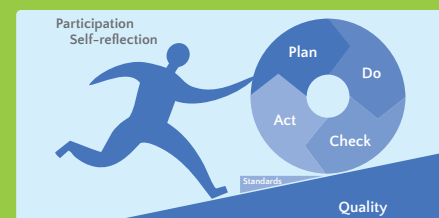
Quality Action provides collaboration and support to the people and organisations applying the QA/QI tools through its **online forum and support network** ([www.qualityaction.eu](http://www.qualityaction.eu))

Quality Action collects data and feedback from people and organisations applying the QA/QI tools. Their input will be used to produce a **package of core materials** (available in a range of languages) to support quality in HIV prevention.

Quality Action will develop a **Charter for Quality in HIV prevention** with quality principles and criteria for HIV prevention agreed by key stakeholders. A **Policy Kit** will support policy makers and strategic planners to support quality improvement in HIV prevention.

### CONCLUSION

The Joint Action aims at improving the planning, implementation and evaluation of interventions, as well on maximising the impact on priority populations to improve health.



13. Health Service Executive, Ireland; 14. Lega Italiana per la Lotta contro l' Aids, Italy; 15. National Institute for Infectious Diseases Lazzaro Spallanzani, Italy; 16. Centre for Communicable Diseases and AIDS, Lithuania; 17. Aidsberodung Croix-Rouge Luxembourgeoise, Luxembourg; 18. Aids Fonds -STOP AIDS NOW! - Soa Aids Nederland, Netherlands; 19. Spoleczny Komitet ds. AIDS, Poland; 20. National Institute for Infectious Diseases, Romania; 21. Slovak Medical University, Slovakia; 22. Drustvo SKUC, Slovenia; 23. Ministerio de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad, Spain; 24. Sida-studi, Spain.

