



## Quality Action CASE STUDY

### 1. Name and country of the organisation

*(Please state the name and the country of the organisation that implemented this practical application of a QA/QI tool as part of Quality Action. We do not publish this information unless you agree. You can remain anonymous by adjusting the settings at the end of this form).*

Aids Hilfe Wien  
Vienna/Austria  
[www.aids.at](http://www.aids.at)

### 2. Authors of the case study and contact details

*(Please provide then name of the author(s) of this case study and any contact names, Email address or websites where readers can access more information about this practical application of a QA/QI tool).*

Sabine Lex  
[lex@aids-hilfe-wien.at](mailto:lex@aids-hilfe-wien.at)  
0043 (0) 1 599 37 93

### 3. External support (facilitators/partners/technical assistance)

*(Please list the names of other organisations and/or people who were involved in this practical application of a QA/QI tool, e.g. project partners, technical assistance, external stakeholders etc..).*

Contributors have mainly been African organisations that helped to distribute the rapid assessment among their members as well as peer educators who undertook the survey.

### 4. Project/Programme and key population/target group addressed

*(Please describe the project/programme to which you applied the tool and the key population/target group addressed).*

Since 2010, Aids Hilfe Wien has been working with the sub-Saharan African communities in Vienna. The project called PAAARC (Prevention of AIDS Among Africans with the Resources of Communities) was an outreach project reaching out to Africans through peer educators. Within this project, different methods from the PQD tool have been used in order to adapt the project to the target group's needs.

In summer 2014, Aids Hilfe Wien used the "Rapid Assessment" method from the PQD toolkit in order to find out more about the subjective health status as well as the health seeking and testing behaviour of Africans living in Vienna. The information derived from the rapid assessment was especially important for adapting testing and counselling services.

## 5. Goals/aims of applying the QA/QI tool

*(Please list the goals you wanted to achieve with the practical application of the tool).*

In summer 2014, Aids Hilfe Wien undertook a Rapid Assessment among migrants from sub-Saharan Africa in order to...

- ...find out about the subjective health status of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa living in Vienna
- ...find out about the target group's help seeking behaviour regarding health
- ...find out about their HIV testing behaviour

## 6. Tool and methodology used

*(Please indicate which of the five tools you used (Succeed, QIP, PQD, PIQA, Schiff) and briefly sketch out the steps and measures of how you applied it).*

The tool applied was PQD. Aids Hilfe Wien had already been working with this tool some years before but never used the "Rapid Assessment" method.

Since subjective health seeking behaviour and test seeking behaviour of the target group was something Aids Hilfe Wien was interested in finding out about, it was decided to use the "Rapid Assessment" method for this purpose. The questionnaire was developed by Aids Hilfe Wien and handed out to the target group by peer educators and also by organisations to their members during a two-week African festival in Vienna.

The questionnaire encompassed seven questions with regard to content and five questions regarding socio-economic information about the respondents. The questionnaire was available in German, English and French. It was a self-completed questionnaire, but assistance was given by peer educators when required.

About 60 completed questionnaires were returned to Aids Hilfe Wien. The data was analysed afterwards by Aids Hilfe Wien. The results should be incorporated in future activities.

## 7. Results and benefits of applying the QA/QI tool

*(Please describe what resulted from applying the tool and if and how your project/programme benefitted).*

### Results:

The results give a good idea about the health seeking behaviour of the target group.

Most Africans (92%) state that they feel very healthy or healthy. A quarter has never been or not been visiting a doctor within the last 12 months. Of those never been to a doctor, 33% don't have health insurance and 67% don't know a good doctor. Like other migrants, Africans often go to hospitals to seek medical help (43%). 46% took their last HIV test within the past 12 months, 14% have never had a HIV test before. 45% of those stated it was part of their regular health check-up, 31% said they thought they were at risk or had sex with a HIV positive person. If they would like to do another HIV test now, 36% would do it at the laboratory, 27% at the hospital, 21% at a GP and 16% at a local AIDS Help Center.

### Benefits:

The advantage of a "Rapid Assessment" is that the questionnaire is very short and people can fill it in within a few minutes. This is especially important at a festival, where people rather want to celebrate and allows a higher number of respondents.

This rapid assessment could also be used during a longer period of time in order to reach a higher number of people. It can be used to find out about the needs of the target group and results can be used to adapt existing services.

## 8. Recommendations

*(Please describe the lessons learnt from positive and negative experiences during the process of using the tool itself and about the quality of projects/programmes like yours).*

Rapid Assessment is a perfect method for concrete and clearly defined issues. Keep the questionnaire as short as possible and make it available in different languages if needed.

The language should be kept simple and the questionnaire should be tried out on the target group before being used with a greater number of people.

A Rapid Assessment can be used as a self-completed questionnaire, but can also be used as a guideline for short interviews, especially if there is a high number of illiterate people among the target group.

### **Please indicate how you want this case study to be published:**

- ☒ *I want this case study to be published mentioning the names of countries, organisations, people and contact details/websites in the text above.*
- ☐ *I want this case study to be published anonymously, meaning that names of countries, organisations, people and contact details/websites in the text above will be removed by the editors before publishing.*
- ☐ *I want this case study to be published without mentioning people's names, meaning that names of people in the text above will be removed by the editors before publishing, but names of organisations and countries as well as website addresses will remain.*

*Please return the filled in document to your country contact  
(who will then forward it to their WP 6 contact).*

**Thank you!**