Scoring system

Responses were pooled into an overall score for each center, based on key dimensions, namely: **privacy, cleanliness, sustainability of services, gender sensitivity, and sexual awareness services**. The score for Privacy was calculated over 10, through the responses to 4 questions; (1) the presence of a specialized HIV testing room (score=3), a medical examinations room (score=2), a counseling room (score=3), and a common waiting room (score=2). The average overall score on this subscale was 7.2/10 for the centers surveyed in this study.

The score for Cleanliness was calculated in 6 questions, with each scoring over 2 points: (1) wearing gloves, (2) alcohol swabs, (3) changing needles, (4) using a needle pen, (5) using a needle prick, and (6) using district garbage disposal units. On average, the overall score for cleanliness in this sample was high, at 9.1.

Sustainability was an important dimension to evaluate the ability of the centers to ensure a high level of qualifications for human resources and staffing needs, and to assess the extent to which they would be capable of maintaining a high quality for their services. The score for sustainability was thus composed of 6 questions, rated over 10: trained employees for HIV testing (score=2), employees with relevant certifications (score=2), medical background requirement for employees (score=2), regular assessments (score=2), volunteers (score=1), and whether employees introduced themselves at the beginning of each session (score=1). The overall sustainability score was 7.5/10.

Gender sensitivity of services was computed by pooling specialized services and awareness of special needs of key populations at each center. The subscale was rated over a total of 14 points, namely LGBTQI friendliness (score=2), knowledge of LGBTQI needs (score=2), knowledge of WSW needs (score=2), specialized services for LGBTQI (score=2), whether the center asks about gender identity (score=2), whether it asks about sex at birth (score=2), and whether LGBTQI are represented among staff (score=2). The score for gender sensitivity was sharply the lowest on average across the sample, at 6.8/14, indicating a high need for more awareness of the specificity of needs for the LGBTQI community in sexual health.
The last dimension of the subscale is sexual awareness, conceptualized over a total score of 14, as per the following questionnaire items: asking about (1) sexual behaviors/practices (score=2), (2) type of sexual intercourse (score=2), (3) last sexual encounter with risk (score=2), (4) number of sexual partners (score=2), (5) gender identity of sexual partners (score=2), (6) unwanted/unplanned pregnancies (score=2), and (7) type of birth control used (score=2). This dimension had an overall average score of 10.5/14.