

# NSAMC site visit to Northern Region SAMC

23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Annekatrin El Oumrany  
Jerry Amoah-Larbi  
Brandford Yeboah

## Activities

1. Meeting with the Northern Region SAMC
2. Meetings with individual SAMC members, incl. Regional HIV and TB coordinators and NAP+
3. Visit of Public Health Reference Lab
4. Visit of RMS
5. Visit of Central Hospital
6. Meeting with GCNH

## Challenges at SAMC level

- Delayed disbursement of funds resulting in reduced number of activities, incl. SAMC meetings
- Insufficient information of and collaboration with other civil society actors – GCNH is not informed about SAMC

## Challenges re service delivery - HIV

- PCR machine has been out of order for many months also because of expired reagents
- Now functional but very sensitive to disturbances
- Lack of communication: facilities not aware that PCR machine works
- Lack of sample tubes for VL samples
- Repairs: 3 months before mechanic sees the machine
- Hematology and chemistry analyzers: lack of complete set of reagents => machine is not used as reagents are not procured from open market, no maintenance this year
- Still challenges with commodity security at facility level

## Challenges re service delivery - TB

- GeneXpert at PHRL not functional because faulty system unit has not been replaced since 2015
- <60% of those at OPD eligible are tested
- Severe shortage of Cat I + III
- MDR-TB clients do not seem to receive enablers' package, TB coordinator is not aware of procedures

## Challenges re to stock security

- Late and incorrect facility requisitions
- Frequent shortages at facility and RMS level before next scheduled IHS delivery (possible reason: RMS requisition is based on previous consumption but previous consumption was affected by rationing)

## Successes

- Enhanced NAP+ capacities (report writing, ICT)
- Better communication between SAMC involved actors
- Better information about HIV and TB, resulted in HIV workplace policy at House of Chiefs
- SAMC members serve as multipliers of HIV/TB info
- Improved commodity security
- Reduced stigma of PLHIV
- Improved quality of service delivery due to monitoring
- SAMC members are content with SAMC impact