Monitoring & evaluation: ideas emerging from the meeting
Key questions:

• #1 Conceptual issues
• # 2 What is the size of the prostitution industry?
• # 3: What are the circumstances under which men and women start to sell sex?
• # 4 What are the circumstances under which sex is sold in South Africa?
• # 5 stigma, societal attitudes and prostitution:
• #6 sex work and men
• #7 could legal change bring benefits to prostitutes and the community?
#1 Conceptual issues:

- What is the definition of prostitution?
- (How) should it be differentiated from transactional sex?
- What are the opportunities & limitations of defining it according to self-identification?
- What are the implications of the definition for establishing all of the locations in which prostitution occurs?
- What are the implications of such differentiation for research and policy?
Monitoring magnitude

• # 2  What is the size of the prostitution industry?

• How is the industry segmented? What is the size of the segments?
• How many sell sex?
• How many institutions involved?
• How many intermediaries? What is their nature/activities?
• Can one methodology to determine size be used across geographical settings in South Africa?

• What are the strengths and limitations of different methodologies for assessing the size of the industry?
  – ISS adaptation of World Bank methodology
  – Capture/Recapture

• What other methodologies are valuable in studying sex workers quantitatively:
  – Respondent Driven Sampling
What are the concerns in research on prostitution?

• Industry heterogeneity & sex worker mobility
• Industry networking
• Stigma, organised crime and the covert nature of parts of industry – what do we miss?
• Definitional fluidity – difficulties having and operationalising a strict case definition and maintaining it across time and studies
• Illegal nature / overlap with other forms of crime – obstacle to research with intermediaries
• Difficulties getting ethics approval for this work and establishing and meeting the ethical requirements for protection of research subjects
• Need to do research with sex workers on the research team or advisory group
# 3: What are the circumstances under which men and women start to sell sex?

- Who sells sex, to whom and in what circumstances?
- What factors or interactions are critical influencing whether a woman or man in particular circumstances will sell sex?
- What is the relationships between adult and child prostitution? Migration?
- Why does it seem to be a choice for some and not others? What influences this?
- What influences cycling out of selling sex?
# 4 What are the circumstances under which sex is sold in South Africa?

- What are the contexts and dynamics of agency, as well as violence, exploitation and coercion in prostitution?
- What are the circumstances of work?
- What is the nature and context of third party involvement? How is this perceived by prostitutes?
- What are the economics of sex work in South Africa? How much more to sex workers take home after the costs of involvement in the industry (brothels, bribes, drugs etc)?
- Do these change with legislative change?
# 5 stigma, societal attitudes and prostitution:

- How does the general public perceive prostitution and those who buy and sell sex?
- What is the anatomy of stigma of prostitution? What is the impact of selling sex on women’s self-identity and how does that impact on their lives?
- What are the micro-dynamics of stigma in the lives of prostitutes, buyers of sex and others?
#6 sex work and men:

- What is the impact of buying sex on men’s sexuality and gender identity, and ideas about relations with women?
- How do men who buy sex perceive prostitutes and the sex industry?
- Men as sex workers
#7 could legal change bring benefits to prostitutes and the community?

- What is the health of prostitutes & does that change?
  - Sexual – esp. STIs, unwanted pregnancy
  - Reproductive health - TOP
  - Mental
  - Substance abuse
  - Exposure to violence

- Does it influence the rate of exit?

- Mapping of services for sex workers to assist exit, enable legal redress, protect minors & trafficked women, drugs rehab etc