**Project objective:** Employer attitudes and practices to the provision of HIV, TB, and related health services to farm workers/employees

**How has HIV impacted this district?**

I don’t know. It’s not a big impact but…If you take the district, every farm has people [with AIDS]. For instance 3 people per farm, that is 15 days you are losing on that farm--that affects the farm because you have planned [work] stuff.

But the irrigation guy--the guy who puts water on the trees is not here for 5 days, now you must get someone else from the other section to come and fill in for him or you must teach another guy to stand in for him. So it affects the farm a lot.

**Can you give examples of how HIV has impacted this farm?**

You get through the season and people just stop working and they disappear…We had one of our top farm managers, he was very ill…I think he was absent for three month. We had him to hospitals and doctors…I am not sure if it was malaria or HIV…[Farm employees] don’t want to talk about it.

**You’ve mentioned AIDS a lot of times. How has it impacted this area?**

It has a big impact and it is treatable. We knew that four, five people that took the treatment and they were the best workers ever. They had energy. They wanted to work. They were motivated because they got help. They’ve got the ability to come forward and say, ‘Please help me to go to [health clinic] every month.’ They didn’t tell me they’ve got AIDS, they just told me I want to go there every month for treatment. I did not ask what treatment--I just know.

**And what would you say are the major general health problems facing farm workers, say the top five things?**

I honestly try and keep me out of it. When you get a sick note, it only says, ‘medical condition.’ So I don’t know what is wrong with them….I want the people to know…that I don’t have the specifics because tomorrow I fight with them about something else and they say, ‘No, it is because you know I am HIV positive and you don’t want me on the farm anymore.’

**What would you like to see for the future, with health service provision for farm workers?**

I tell my people at lunch time, they can come and eat at the shed and one by one they can go to the clinic, at 1pm again we start working. I do all that planning around that time, for [the mobile clinic] to be here at 12pm, for [employees] to eat their lunch and sit here in the shade and wait for the clinic, then the clinic comes 30 minutes late and they start with all the injections and things. They go into my time and my working time...I lose…an average of 15-20 people for that hour, I have to pay them for that hour. So then yes, it costs me money. I would like the [mobile health clinic] to be on time.