

Group 4

Empowering national leadership and ownership



KEY ISSUES

- Are national AIDS strategies prioritized, inclusive, costed and evidence informed?
- Are links between AIDS and broader development frameworks sufficiently developed?

JOINT UNAIDS RESPONSE

- Joint UNDP/WB/UNAIDS Secretariat initiative on integrating of AIDS into PRSPs
- UNAIDS service on strategic planning – The AIDS Strategy and Action Plan (ASAP) service

Discussion and Outcomes

- ❑ Presentations from government and civil society in Swaziland, Rwanda, Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar
- ❑ Challenges faced in strengthening national AIDS strategies and rooting them in development frameworks
- ❑ ASAP and PRSP support services:
 - ASAP assisting 13 countries; assessment tools, guidelines and training curricula developed, regional trainings initiated
 - PRSP initiative underway in 14 countries; country-assessments, regional capacity building trainings, implementation of country follow-up activities
- ❑ Initiatives are demand-driven, and are UNAIDS services to support countries

CHALLENGES

- ❑ AIDS responses mainly addressed through health sector in PRSPs
- ❑ Insufficient knowledge of the sectoral impact and magnitude of AIDS
- ❑ Incomplete information on AIDS vulnerability across sectors and challenges in accurately mapping vulnerability
- ❑ Insufficient harmonization, financing and sustainability
- ❑ Development of plans and mainstreaming into development frameworks is only the first step, real challenge is ensuring effective implementation for real impact

Recommendations

- ❑ Technical and financial support critical to building capacity for AIDS mainstreaming and strategic planning – from initial planning to implementation and monitoring & evaluation
- ❑ Spend financial resources for country-level impact and capacity building, and not on new bureaucracies
- ❑ Prioritization needs to be linked to transmission patterns and budgets
- ❑ Use existing country and regional capacity, expertise and South-South knowledge sharing
- ❑ Baseline data crucial for strategy development and integration process

Recommendations

- ❑ Involve stakeholders in all stages of the PRSP and strategy development process and implementation
- ❑ Allocating adequate resources to social programmes for vulnerable groups (incl. people living with HIV) and channelling resources directly to communities
- ❑ Creation of CSO national umbrella and forums and mechanisms for ensuring meaningful CSO involvement