

#### The State of the Stigma and Discrimination Response: Resisting Violence and Prejudice against People Living with HIV

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#### **Situation Overview**

Prejudice Type or Setting	Quality and Amount of Information	Validated interventions exist?	Trends	Community Response	Resources
Internalized stigma	Moderate	Yes	Unknown	Some places	PLHIV Stigma Index, other validated scales
Experienced stigma/discrimination	High	Yes	Positive	Some places	PLHIV Stigma Index, other validated scales
Employment, education, & housing discrimination	Low	Limited		Some places	PLHIV Stigma Index
Toward children & youth	Limited	No		No	
Intersecting HIV and key population stigma	Moderate	Extremely limited		Some places	PLHIV Stigma Index, Health Facilities Survey from HP+, Global Men's Health and Rights Survey (MSMGF)
Criminalisation of PLHIV	Moderate	Yes	Mixed	Yes	Advancing HIV Justice I, II, and III, HJN
Faith settings	Low	Limited	Positive	Yes	Framework for Dialogue, UNAIDS/WCC
Healthcare facilities	High	Yes	Positive	Yes	PLHIV Stigma Index; Reducing HIV Stigma and Discrimination in Health Facilities, HP+; other validated scales

## **About the Stigma Index**



- International Partnership: GNP+, ICW, and UNAIDS
- Provides evidence-informed advocacy, policy reform, and service delivery
- Builds capacity of PLHIV networks GIPA principle in action

As of October 2017:

- >100,000 PLHIV interviewed from 90 countries in >50 languages
- 2,000 PLHIV trained as interviewers

#### Announcing: PLHIV Stigma Index 2.0

Funding for revisions from USAID and PEPFAR

Available December 2017

#### High Rates of Internalized Stigma (2017)



■ Uganda (n=401) ■ Senegal (n=406) ■ Cameroon (n=400)

#### Stigma Affects HIV Care Cascade (2017)

- Hesitated to get tested due to fears
- Delayed entering care



Cameroon (n=400) Senegal (n=406) Uganda (n=401)

Delayed entering care because:

- Not ready to deal with HIV infection (16–33%)
- Worried others would find out status (11–13%)
- Afraid health workers would treat me badly or disclose status without consent/had a bad experience with a health worker previously (4–11%)

# Experiences of Stigma and Violence due to Key Population Membership (2017)



## Stigma Toward Key Populations Impedes Health Seeking (2017)



MSM Sex workers

## Protecting the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women Living with HIV



Consolidated guideline on sexual and reproductive health and rights of women living with HIV A Values and Preferences survey among women living with HIV became the foundation for the 2017 WHO Consolidated Guideline on SRHR and women living with HIV.

**High rates of violence** were reported before and after diagnosis, increasing from 6% to 53% in health settings.

Violence was **more common** for women who also identify as gay, lesbian, transgender, sex workers, or using drugs.



#### Where HIV-Related Prosecutions Have Been Reported (October 2015-September 2017)

HIV JUSTICE Network



#### **Advocacy against HIV Criminalisation**



#### What Action is Needed?

- Talk
  - Keep attention focused on HIV-related stigma and discrimination
- Research
  - Include HIV stigma and discrimination indicators in all HIV prevention, treatment, and intervention research
- Money
  - Resource PLHIV and other key population networks to address HIV-related stigma and discrimination
  - Fund testing and validation of indicators and interventions in and beyond healthcare settings

#### Institutions, systems, and structures

- Ensure full and equal access to education, employment, housing, and justice and fund recourse mechanisms
- GIPA
  - Commit to the meaningful engagement of PLHIV and key population communities in all stages of the research and interventions
- Resilience
  - PLHIV and key populations have to be resilient. We need YOUR resilience, too. Political leaders, decisionmakers, and researchers need to stay the course.

#### **THANK YOU**

To all of the people living with HIV worldwide who shared their experiences with stigma, discrimination, and activism. You made this presentation possible.



Salamander Trust, ICW, and WHO for the data on violence in healthcare settings faced by women living with HIV

PLHIV Stigma Index International Partnership: **GNP+**, **ICW**, & **UNAIDS**; **Population Council/Project SOAR**; & **Laura Nyblade**, RTI/HP+ & **Stef Baral**, Johns Hopkins University for the People Living with HIV Stigma Index 2.0 data/charts

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HIV Justice Network/HIV Justice Global Consortium for the HIV criminalisation global data/maps

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