
Best Practices on Effective Funding of Community-Led HIV Responses



Photo credit: Rumah Cemara

Background

Decision Points from the 39th Programme Committee Board (PCB) meeting

8.3 Recalling decisions 5.2, 6.2(b) and 6.4 from the 38th Programme Coordinating Board, and the commitments in the 2016 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS, paragraphs 63 (a)–(e), calls on UNAIDS, to:

- a. Undertake further analysis of the barriers to effective funding of community-led responses by international and private funders, as well as better understanding of the challenges faced by national governments in allocating funding to community-led responses;
- b. Continue to work on mobilization of resources and advocacy to ensure sustainable support for community-led key population responses, where needed, including in middle-income countries;
- c. Adapt existing mechanisms, including in the reporting for the 2016 Political Declaration, as appropriate, to support UN member states to track and share their investment in community-led responses;
- d. Provide guidance to funders for the development of new frameworks for risk assessments in funding for community-led HIV responses and on good practices for the monitoring and evaluation of funds to grassroots and community-based organizations, and guidance for countries to create or reform national mechanisms to fund comprehensive community responses to HIV;
- e. Collaborate with partners to identify and scale up mechanisms to increase investment in community-led responses to HIV;
- f. Report on progress at the 41st PCB;

2016 UN Political Declaration on HIV & AIDS

- **Ensure that at least 30% of all service delivery is community-led by 2030**
- **Ensure that at least 6% of HIV resources are allocated for social enabling activities, including:**
 - Advocacy
 - Community and political mobilization
 - Community monitoring
 - Public communication
 - Outreach programmes for rapid HIV tests and diagnosis
 - Human rights programmes such as law and policy reform
 - Stigma and discrimination reduction



Photo credit: Bryan Victor

Defining the Term: Community

For the HIV response, the term “communities” must be inclusive of groups who come together based on locality or identity, whether registered formally or not.

“Communities are formed by **formal** (CBOs) and **informal** organizations (mothers’ groups) or a combination of formal and informal.

Communities are defined by sharing a geographic **sense of place** or sharing **common characteristics, interests, and cultural identity.**”

-Dr. Rosalia Rodriguez-Garcia, presentation to the 38th PCB meeting



Photo credit: AFP: Ted Aljibe



Photo credit: AFP: AIDS Action Now

Where are we now?
Key data and information

Methods

- **Analysis of**
 - publicly available literature and aid data
 - Unpublished data from external aid agencies
 - Reviews of normative guidance on UNAIDS indicators and tools
 - Reports from donors
 - Online key word search in public online databases for grants dated after 2016
 - PEPFAR, Department for International Development, Agence Française de Développement, Initiative 5%, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Global Fund, and Unitaid
 - Global AIDS Monitoring and National AIDS Spending Assessments data
 - Pilot data from UNAIDS civil society marker
 - Review of donor-reported disbursements to OECD
 - Key word search of PubMed articles for evaluations of the effectiveness of community responses
 - Civil society expert consultation
 - Focus group with former UNAIDS Country Directors

Community-led and human rights-based HIV responses are effective

Increasing evidence base for the effectiveness of community-led HIV responses and of human rights programming, including for:

- Primary prevention
- Locating undiagnosed people with TB and linking them to care
- Supporting people with HIV to adhere to ART and be retained in care
- Increasing access to health services in detention centers
- Improving patient communication with health providers
- Addressing harmful gender norms
- Reducing HIV stigma
- Increasing knowledge of human rights and the ability to claim those rights for people living with HIV

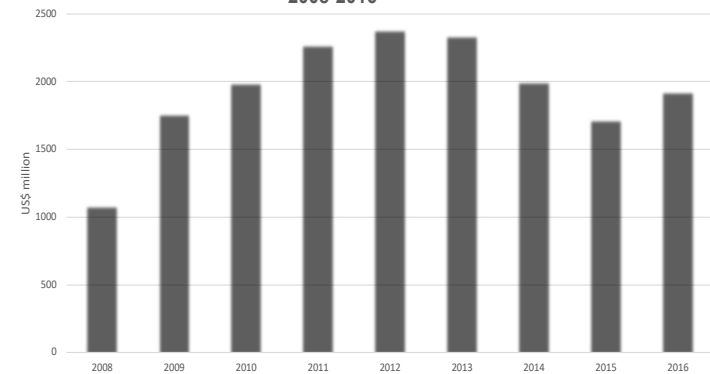


Photo credit: Musah Lumumba

Diminished funding for civil society HIV responses

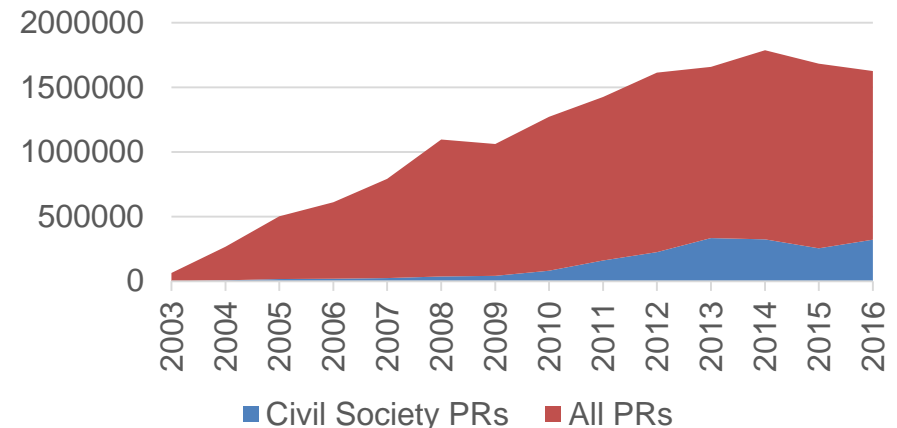
- Declines in funding for community and human rights responses continue to threaten progress against the epidemic
- Available data show funding to civil society for the HIV response peaked in 2012/2013
- Survey and other data indicate that the funding decline was steeper for:
 - Smaller and grassroots NGOs,
 - NGOs focused on key populations, advocacy and human rights, and
 - NGOs in Middle Income Countries undergoing donor transitions

Chart 1: Multilateral and bilateral official development aid for HIV channeled through civil society 2008-2016



Source: OECD CRS last accessed October 2018

Global Fund Expenditure through CSO Principal Recipients for HIV and Joint HIV/TB Grants (in USD 1000s)



■ Civil Society PRs ■ All PRs

Barriers to funding community and human rights groups persist

- Political and legal barriers
 - Restrictions on civil society organizing and fundraising
 - Criminal laws and policy practices that penalize people living with HIV, key populations, and women and girls
 - Restrictive intellectual property regimes
- Barriers created by donors
 - Donor-created institutional barriers
 - Transition policies and abrupt donor departures
 - Competition between donors and weak donor coordination
 - Limited funding for core costs and sustainability
 - Upfront expenditure requirements for civil society organizations
- Civil society practices that create barriers



Photo credit: Rumah Cemara

Good funding practices exist and continue to evolve

- Good practices for consideration:
 - Engagement of CBOs throughout funding processes
 - Track and report on expenditure flows to community-led and human rights responses
 - Social Contracting
 - Innovative Financing
- Suggested practices for consideration:
 - Develop credentialing or pre-approval processes with community and human rights organisations
 - Align application and reporting requirements across donors



Photo credit: World Council of Churches, Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance



Where are we now? Achievements

Photo credit: World Council of Churches, Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance

Global progress on investment in the community-led HIV response and social enablers

- Tracked through:

1. UNAIDS

- Tools for national reporting (all updated after 2016)
 - Global AIDS Monitoring (GAM)
 - National Commitments and Policy Instrument (NCPI)
 - National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA)
- Civil society engagement marker for UN Joint Teams on AIDS

2. Multilateral and bilateral donor reports

3. Private philanthropy reports

UNAIDS Global AIDS Monitoring

Responding to the 2016 Political Declaration, UNAIDS revised the Global AIDS Monitoring system to include a question on numbers of key population prevention sites run by community providers.

For example:

East & Southern Africa	Country	Year	Total MSM prevention sites	Number government sites	Number community sites
	Kenya	2016	42	6	36
	Kenya	2017	62	7	55
	Madagascar	2016	1714	1670	44
	Zambia	2017	14	2	12
	Zimbabwe	2016	14		14

National Commitments and Policy Instrument

Responding to the 2016 Political Declaration, UNAIDS revised the NCPI (Parts A and B) to include questions on political, legal, and regulatory safeguards for community-led responses, on funding for social enablers, and human rights programmes and access to justice.

For example: **NCPI Part A (completed by national authorities)**

7. Ensure that at least 30% of all service delivery is community-led by 2020.

140. Are there any of the following safeguards in laws, regulations and policies that provide for the operation of civil society organizations (CSOs) or community-based organizations (CBOs) in your country (please select all that apply)?

- Registration of HIV CSOs is possible
 - Registration of CSOs/CBOs working with key populations is possible
 - HIV services can be provided by CSOs/CBOs
 - Services to key populations can be provided by CSOs/CBOs
 - Reporting requirements for CSOs/CBOs delivering HIV services are streamlined
 - There are no safeguards in laws, regulations or policies that provide for the operation of CSOs/CBOs in the country
 - Other (please specify): _____
-

141. Are there laws, policies or regulations that enable access to funding for CSOs/CBOs?

- Social contracting or other mechanisms allowing for funding of service delivery by communities from domestic funding
 - From international donors
 - Both from domestic funding and international donors
 - Require a certain percentage of government funding for CSOs/CBOs
 - There are no laws, policies or regulations enabling access to funding for CSOs/CBOs
 - Other (please specify): _____
-

UNAIDS National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA)

- UNAIDS NASA reporting tracks country-level information on funding flows to NGOs and for specific programmes, including for social enablers
- Indicators have been updated in 2018 to provide greater clarity on community systems funding

UNAIDS National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA)

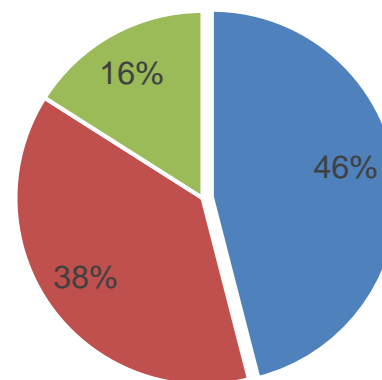
REDES Niger NASA data, 2013-15

Agents de financement	2013	%	2014	%	2015	%
Ministère de la Santé	996,839,047	14.86%	1,143,419,940	21.22%	1,364,634,454	16.03%
Ministère de la Défense	40,343,006	0.60%	63,485,106	1.18%	37,947,183	0.45%
Autres ministères		0.00%	2,736,000	0.05%		0.00%
Organisme national de coordination de la lutte contre le sida	3,631,406,784	54.14%	2,446,437,025	45.40%	5,570,662,898	65.45%
Autres ministères	27,000,000	0.40%		0.00%		0.00%
Total Secteur public	4,695,588,837	70.01%	3,656,078,071	67.85%	6,973,244,535	81.93%
Institutions à but non lucratif	1,179,306,054	17.58%	1,016,614,104	18.87%	35,259,124	0.41%
Organismes et entreprises non parapublics privés	31,148,222	0.46%	1,255,000	0.02%		0.00%
Autres agents de financement du secteur privé non classifiés ailleurs (n.c.a.)		0.00%		0.00%	1,400,000	0.02%
Total Secteur privé	1,210,454,276	18.05%	1,017,869,104	18.89%	36,659,124	0.43%

UNAIDS Civil Society Engagement Marker

- 2018: Limited pilot applied to core UBRAF allocations to UNAIDS Cosponsors at country level (22 million USD)
- The results demonstrate:
 - The **feasibility** for tracking Joint Programme contributions to civil society at country level
 - The **minimum contribution** made by Cosponsors to civil society in 2018 because non-core expenditures by Cosponsors were not included in the pilot
- 2019: a refined Civil Society Engagement Marker will be applied against all resources allocated to UN Joint Teams on AIDS

Civil Society Marker Results, 2018 (Pilot)



- No contribution to civil society engagement
- Partial contribution to civil society engagement
- Principal objective is to advance civil society engagement



Where are we now? Challenges

Photo credit: World Council of Churches,
Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance

Reversing Declines, Removing Barriers, Reporting Progress

- Strong **political leadership** to achieve the 2016 commitments needed to reverse the funding decline and overcome funding barriers
- UN Member States to champion community-led HIV responses and fully meet their **commitments on funding for civil society** and to the **GIPA principle**
- Alignment around **shared definitions** urgently required to facilitate better investments and monitoring for the political commitments on:
 - **Community-led AIDS response**
 - **“Social enablers”**



Photo credit: Positively Trans

Recommendations

Countries need to commit maximum available resources to fulfil the right to the highest attainable standard of health, including ensuring that 30% of service delivery is community-led HIV and that 6% of HIV financing towards social enablers, as stated in the 2016 Political Declaration on Ending AIDS.

The Joint Programme should support countries to review laws and policies that may impede financing of both community-led AIDS responses and social enablers.

Countries should review and amend relevant laws, policies, institutions and mechanisms to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment in which civil society organizations can operate free from hindrance, insecurity and reprisals. The right to freedom of association should be subject only to such limitations as are in accordance with applicable international obligation.

Recommendations

UNAIDS should urgently convene a task team with diverse donors, implementing countries and community representatives (including representatives of people living with HIV, women and adolescent girls and young women, young people and key populations) **to agree on definitions for “community-led AIDS response” and “social enablers”** that meet the needs of the AIDS response and that can be effectively monitored.

Donors are encouraged to review their financing and reporting modalities and should ensure that these are aligned with the commitments in the Political Declaration on Ending AIDS and that they enable monitoring of progress towards the relevant targets.

Countries are encouraged to report annually on coverage and expenditures using the GAM and NASA tools. UNAIDS should share those data online to enable collective monitoring of progress towards the highlighted commitments in the Political Declaration on Ending AIDS.

A task team should be established to recommend good practices and improved modalities to ensure access to funding for community-led organizations and constituency-based networks.