JOINT UN PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

UN-Women’s follow-up to recommendations of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board

Photo | UN Women
1. Gender Equality in the Context of HIV/AIDS
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GENDER EQUALITY IN THE CONTEXT OF HIV/AIDS

Globally, there are more women (15+) living with HIV: 53%
Women (15+) constituted nearly half of new HIV infections: 47%
Adolescent girls & young women (15-24) make up 62% of new HIV infections

Women who have experienced violence are 50% more likely to acquire HIV

COVID-19 is worsening gender inequality & violence against women, increasing women's risk to HIV infection & their ability to mitigate its impact

Source | UNAIDS AIDSInfo database; L. Heise 2016.
GENDER EQUALITY IN THE CONTEXT OF HIV/AIDS

Number of new HIV infections by sex, global, 2010–2019

Women (15+) have generally better outcomes across 90-90-90 continuum

Sources | UNAIDS AIDSInfo database; UNAIDS 2020.
GENDER EQUALITY IN THE CONTEXT OF HIV/AIDS

In sub-Saharan Africa, women (15+) constitute more than half all people living with HIV

63%

There were more new HIV infections among women (15+)

60%

Adolescent girls & young women (15-24) make up the majority of new HIV infections

72%

Only 1/3 of adolescent girls & young women (15-24) have comprehensive HIV knowledge

Only 55% of married or in-union women (15-49) make their own decisions regarding sexual & reproductive health & rights

Every year, 12 million girls are married before the age of 18, limiting their ability to prevent HIV

Source | UNAIDS AIDSInfo database; UNFPA 2020; UNICEF 2018.
Involve young people in prevention – come and enter our world.

We do not want to be passive recipients of interventions.

Annah Sango

*International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW)*
• Integrating gender equality into the governance of the HIV response.

• Amplifying voice and leadership of women and girls in all their diversity, to meaningfully engage in decision-making.

• Up-scaling what works in transforming unequal gender norms to prevent HIV and mitigate its impact:
  o addressing the intersections between HIV and violence against women,
  o promoting women’s economic empowerment, and
  o realizing women’s legal rights and ending gender-based stigma and discrimination.
To date, UN-Women has supported the integration of gender equality issues in national HIV responses in 48 countries, benefitting approx. 13.5 million women (15+) living with HIV – nearly 70% of all women living with HIV globally. UN-Women’s support has amplified voices & enhanced the leadership of women living with HIV in formal mechanisms & fora across 30 countries – in just two last years, over 10,000 women living with HIV have directly benefited from this work.

Adaptation of the UN-Women’s HeforShe approach resulted in transforming of harmful norms among men in South Africa, with 62% of participating women & men testing for HIV, & 36% returning and adhering to their antiretroviral treatment.

To prevent violence against women & HIV, UN-Women scaled up implementation of the evidence-based SASA! community-based initiative: in just one year, over 20,000 women & men at the grassroots level reported improved attitudes & behaviors in Zimbabwe.
KEY JOINT INITIATIVES

Global Partnership for Action to Eliminate All Forms of HIV-Related Stigma & Discrimination

Education Plus Initiative: Empowering Adolescent Girls & Young Women in Africa
UNAIDS PCB DECISIONS & IMPLEMENTATION

Global Partnership for Action to Eliminate All Forms of HIV-related Stigma & Discrimination
- Providing technical assistance to countries & generating cutting-edge knowledge
- Ensuring engagement & voice of women living with HIV

UNAIDS Strategy Beyond 2021 & Unified Budget, Results & Accountability Framework
- Prioritizing a stand-alone gender equality results area & integrating gender equality across the strategy & results framework
- Designing a robust gender-responsive indicators and resources framework

Evaluations & Joint Inspection Unit recommendations
- Learning from UN Women programming
- Informing UNAIDS evaluations & management response
WAY FORWARD

Cosponsorship in the UNAIDS Joint Programme
- Leading on Gender Equality & GBV in the UNAIDS Division of Labour
- New cosponsorship principles

UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS
- Providing technical advice to Member States & civil society
- Making linkages with the Generation Equality & Action Coalitions

New UN Women Strategic Plan
- Influencing governance of HIV response & promoting leadership of women living w/HIV
- Focusing on ‘leave no one behind’ principle & transforming unequal gender norms