



## HIV Leadership through Accountability

### Ensuring accountability for promises made to achieve universal access to HIV treatment, care and prevention

#### What is this piece of work about?

Achieving universal access to HIV treatment, care and prevention requires a coordinated response that involves multiple and diverse stakeholders. Civil society, including people living with HIV (PLHIV) networks, plays a critical role in the realisation of national and international targets. Through its work with communities, civil society provides a unique perspective on the barriers to accessing services and offer evidence-based advocacy and recommendations about what must be done to remove these barriers.

The Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) and the World AIDS Campaign (WAC) are spearheading a five-year programme with national networks of people living with HIV in fifteen countries around the world to support national processes to achieve Universal Access by:

- Supporting people living with HIV networks to strengthen evidence-base advocacy, policy and programming and enhance their participation in national processes and mechanisms;
- Creating an enabling environment and platforms to support strengthened coordination and participation of civil society in the development of advocacy and effective responses.

**How we do it?****Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+)**

Within each country, over a two-year period, the national network of people living with HIV implements tools *by and for* PLHIV, elaborated by GNP+ and its partners, aiming at strengthening the evidence on four key areas: 1) stigma and discrimination (*The People Living with HIV Stigma Index*); 2) the level of involvement of people living with HIV (*The GIPA Report Card*); 3) documenting and analysing laws criminalising transmission of and exposure to HIV (*The Global Criminalisation Scan*); and 4) documenting and analysing human rights violations against people living with HIV (*Human Rights Count!*). Lastly, the *Advancing the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of PLHIV: A Guidance Package* will support PLHIV networks to engage in national processes for the development and/or adaptation of sexual and reproductive health services. More specifically:

- ***The People Living with HIV Stigma Index*** (GNP+, ICW, IPPF, UNAIDS) – collects and examines HIV-related stigma experienced by PLHIV, exploring its direct and indirect impacts on individuals. The Index measures geographical, demographic as well as temporal trends;
- ***The GIPA Report Card*** (GNP+, ICW, UNAIDS) - identifies existing levels of the application of the GIPA principle in-country and provides insights on how the participation of PLHIV can be made more meaningful;
- ***Global Criminalisation Scan*** (GNP+ and Regional Networks of PLHIV) – documents existing legislation on the criminalisation of transmission of and exposure to HIV and cases when the laws have been used to criminalise persons with HIV. Furthermore, the *Global Criminalisation Scan* supports the development of appropriate advocacy and actions to respond to current legislature;
- ***Human Rights Count!*** (GNP+ and Regional Networks of PLHIV) – records human rights violations experienced by women, men and excluded individuals living with HIV;
- ***Advancing the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of PLHIV: A Guidance Package*** (EngenderHealth, GNP+, ICW, IPPF, UNAIDS, Young Positive) – raises awareness of sexual and reproductive health and rights and provides practical programmatic recommendations for responses aimed at the general population as well as key populations.

**World AIDS Campaign (WAC)**

Within each country, over a two-year period, World AIDS Campaign catalyses and facilitates sustainable national campaign platforms. This is done by engaging in the following activities:

- **Mapping and stakeholder consultations:** consulting with civil society organisations (CSOs), existing civil society (CS) partnerships or campaigns to assess their needs, interest in, capacity and commitment to national efforts around Universal Access; outlining the levels of CS engagement, and the current state of accountability mechanisms in country.
- **Ongoing development of campaign plans:** Ongoing commitment from the national steering committees to develop objectives, targets and partnerships for comprehensive campaigning and mobilisation at all levels.

- **National CSO meetings:** with CSOs representing the fullest range of constituencies, to consultation outcomes and support the inception of a CS campaign platform. Follow up actions include:
  - The integration of PLHIV perspectives with leadership in national campaigning.
  - Sharing the baseline research methodology enabling stakeholders to monitor national AIDS plans and programmes to inform campaign messages on leadership and accountability for Universal Access.
  - A communications and mobilisation plan with the necessary supporting tools and resources.
- **Sub-Regional workshops:** to engage and link neighbouring countries for joint campaigning work.
  - To share campaigning experiences, best practices and lessons learned.
  - To access more effectively information on Universal Access, governance and transparency.
  - To promote a coordinated approach to campaigning and mobilisation.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** to develop in partnership, national Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes to monitor campaigning impact and good governance for CSOs.
- **Linking national campaigns with regional and international efforts:** CS's own experience and agenda should feed into specific regional campaigns as well as opportunities for international exposure, for example as part of country delegations to UNGASS meetings. Evidence and experience at national level as well as linking to PLHIV and CS networks at regional level will be critical for informing regional and international activities, including the contributions to consultations, development of policies and programmes and representation at international bodies.

#### **How is the work monitored, evaluated and disseminated?**

As the focus of the work is on evidence-based advocacy and campaigning, it is essential that national data is captured, recorded and published in order to inform and strengthen national, regional and international efforts. The work is implemented with a bottom-up approach, informed by community responses, and strengthened by South-South collaboration.

GNP+ ensures that national networks of people living with HIV are supported to develop national plans, which will include well-designed monitoring and evaluation techniques and tools. Networks undertake evaluations of the processes and outcomes and share lessons learned as well as participate in the civil society coordination platforms.

WAC ensures that national campaign platforms are supported to develop their national campaign and mobilisation plans, which will include monitoring and evaluation processes. WAC undertakes evaluations of the national and sub-regional meetings and outcomes during the first year and national steering groups undertake this during the second year and share lessons learned in the bi-annual global campaigners meeting of national partners.

Examples of best practice and lessons learned are disseminated via a diverse range of communications tools, new publications as well as websites and listserves coordinated by national networks, GNP+ and WAC.

**What do we hope to achieve together?**

The programme enables national networks of people living with HIV to build a solid evidence-base about *why* it is important to achieve universal access and *how* this can happen in practice through the meaningful participation of people living with HIV.

Contributions are made to a strong social movement on HIV that presses for promises to be kept through uniting broad social networks within a common effort with national networks of people living with HIV at the core. This will ensure that governments and policy makers meet the targets they have agreed.

To make Universal Access for prevention, treatment, care and support a reality, campaigners need to make Universal Access the focal point of the public and policy agenda. Therefore, the need for more transparency means that information about national decisions on HIV and AIDS, relevant meeting agendas and programme plans need to be made available, and information on who participates, their issues and who provides funding, needs to be routinely collected and made available.

The information gathered will inform national-level priorities and the delivery of HIV programmes with a focus on key issues. It will enable national governments to deliver coordinated and effective responses to HIV and AIDS. More importantly, it would also highlight the unique role of civil society, including people living with HIV networks, in working with governments to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate programmes that contribute to realising targets for expanding access to HIV care, treatment and prevention.

**For more information, please consult:**

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The World AIDS Campaign (WAC)

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