



HEALTH FINANCING AND ECONOMICS

at the International AIDS Conference

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Pre-Conference Satellites

[9th International AIDS Economic Network \(IAEN\) Pre-Conference: Investing in Sustainable Responses to HIV and AIDS](#)

15-16 July Suncoast Towers, 20 Battery Beach Road

Conference Satellites

[Financing for Universal Health Coverage: Elimination of Epidemics of AIDS and Viral Hepatitis](#)

Organizer: **World Health Organization**
18 July, 12:30 - 14:30 | Session Room 7

This satellite will address critical issues in financing HIV and viral hepatitis responses within the context of achieving universal health coverage and the elimination of the AIDS and viral hepatitis epidemics as public health threats.

[The Collapse of Global AIDS Funding](#)

Organizer: **AIDS Healthcare Foundation**
19 July, 18:30 - 20:30 | Session Room 9

Global AIDS funding is on the edge of collapse. Funding has remained flat for years, meanwhile millions more people in resource-constrained countries have become eligible for treatment under the new WHO guidelines. The funding gap now stands at \$6 billion to \$10 billion per year. The need for funding advocacy is now more urgent than ever. Join us for a panel discussion on what advocacy steps must be taken to help close the funding gap and prevent millions of deaths due to AIDS.

[Financing South Africa's HIV Response](#)

Organizer: **UNAIDS, National Department of Health and Results for Development (R4D) Institute**
19 July, 18:30 - 20:30 | Session Room 12

Together with UNAIDS, R4D, and other partners, the South African government will showcase the successes

of its HIV program and highlight approaches to sustainably financing the epidemic response.

[Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Financing of AIDS Responses](#)

Organizer: **United Nations Development Programme**
21 July, 18:30 - 20:30 | Session Room 7

Community Workshops

[How to Avoid Jumping from the Kettle into the Fire: What You can do When Your Country Becomes "Middle Income"](#)

19 July, 14:30 - 17:00 | Session Room 13

Level: Advanced

Target Audience: Activists/Advocates, Managers/Directors, Policy/Program Analysts

Co-facilitators:

Maurine Murenga,

International Community of Women Living with HIV, Kenya

Olena Stryzhak,

All-Ukrainian Network of the People Living with HIV/AIDS, Ukraine

Javier Hourcade Bellocq,

International HIV/AIDS Alliance, Argentina

As more countries move towards middle-income status, they may become ineligible for multilateral funds, whether or not they are prepared to invest in their domestic HIV responses. As donors deprioritize middle-income countries and reduce their financing for health, national funding doesn't fill the gap, leading to antiretroviral therapy stock-outs, long health facility queues and people living with HIV (PLHIV) and key populations living with HIV (KPLHIV) networks with reduced capacity for vital initiatives. We know socio-political preoccupations among the domestic national leadership complicate developing comprehensive, rights-based HIV responses. This workshop discusses



what strategies and tools communities employ to respond to these challenges, and how PLHIV and KPLHIV networks can collaborate to ensure financing for community initiatives remain a high priority, despite domestic and global donor retrenchment.

[Curbing Unmerited Patents and High Prices in Middle Income Countries](#)

20 July, 14:30 - 17:00 | Session Room 8

Level: Intermediate

Target Audience: Advocates, Activists, Policymakers

Co-facilitators:

Tahir Amin, Initiative for Medicines, Access, & Knowledge (I-MAK), United States

Othoman Mellouk, International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC MENA), Morocco

Priti Radhakrishnan, Initiative for Medicines, Access, & Knowledge (I-MAK), United States

Kajal Bhardwaj, Independent Lawyer, India

Middle income countries (MICs) pay high prices for ARVs, hampering their ability to close the treatment gap and to adopt newer ARVs in their treatment protocols. Patent monopolies and exclusion from pharmaceutical companies' access initiatives and voluntary licenses contribute to these high prices. Companies file more patents in MICs and many of these are unmerited covering only minor modifications of known substances. This leads to abusive patent protection, which blocks generic competition that could lead to dramatically lower prices. This workshop aims to build the capacity and provide support to civil society advocates and organizations seeking to instill stricter patent examination standards and engage in patent opposition strategies. Using the experience of the facilitators, the workshop provides practical guidelines and examples for setting stricter patentability standards and strategies for filing patent oppositions including conducting patent searches, monitoring patent applications, prior art search and drafting of oppositions.

Symposia

[Opportunities for and Challenges to Sustainable Financing of the AIDS Response](#)

20 July, 11:00 - 12:30 | Session Room 11

Co-facilitators:

Mark Dybul, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Switzerland

Jimmy Kolker, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), United States

Predictable and sustainable financing of the AIDS response is critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. HIV financing is currently characterized by high donor dependency and uncertainty about future international assistance. This session addresses the critical importance of sustainable financing for the AIDS response moving towards 2030 and beyond and focuses on three critical components of sustainable financing: (1) fully funding the Global Fund; (2) transitions in middle-income status; and (3) innovations and leveraging resources from non-traditional sources, including the private sector. The session is targeted towards policy and decision makers and HIV advocates and activists and will provoke discussion on different aspects of sustainably financing of the AIDS response. Participants will gain an understanding of the key elements of sustainable HIV financing and their importance for the efforts in achieving the 2030 targets.

[Getting the Money We Need: the Case for Investment and Using Resources for Maximum Impact](#)

22 July, 11:00 - 12:30 | Session Room 2

Chair: **Bernhard Schwartlander**, World Health Organization, China

The session addresses the need for increased investment in the response to AIDS along with greater attention to the use of funding for maximum impact. Target audiences include civil society advocates and decision makers. The audience will learn about key arguments to make the case for increased investment, issues to consider in order to improve the use of funding, and priorities for advocacy on resource mobilization. The session also discusses the use of innovative finance approaches and makes the case for joint HIV and tuberculosis investments.

Leadership Workshops

[Sustainability and Responsible Transitions from Donor to National Investments](#)

Co-facilitators:

Raminta Stuikyte, UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Human Rights, Lithuania

Sergey Votyagov, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, Lithuania

Ivan Cruickshank, Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition, Jamaica

Faith Mamba, UNAIDS, South Africa

21 July, 11:00 - 12:30 | Session Room 13

Level: Intermediate

Target Audience: Donors, Advocates, Program implementation specialists

As the world sets new ambitious goals for ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030, countries around the globe are faced with the dual challenge of front loading investments to accelerate the scale-up of AIDS responses and sustaining the achievements made to date. Middle-income countries are experiencing reductions in donor funding which have adversely affected HIV programs particularly for key populations. Countries and donors have a mutual responsibility to ensure that donor transitions are carefully planned and well managed. This workshop aims to build knowledge and skills to inform the planning and implementation of transitions; it facilitates the identification of roles and responsibilities during the transition process and highlights strategies to promote well managed transitions. The workshop also stresses the importance of collaborative action between ministries of finance, health, donors, and civil society in agreeing on clear milestones and priorities to govern transitions.

Conference Presentations

[Financing the Response to HIV: Show Us the Money \(Track E\)](#)

21 July, 11:00 - 12:30 | Session Room 1

Chair: **Michael Ruffner**, U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), United States

[Cash and Care: Economic Empowerment for HIV Prevention \(Track D\)](#)

21 July, 16:30 - 18:00 | Session Room 11

Co-chairs:

Andrew Gibbs, Health Economics and HIV/AIDS Research Division, South Africa

Audrey Elizabeth Pettifor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, United States

Oral Poster Presentations

[The Dollars and Sense of HIV Service Delivery](#)

21 July, 13:00 - 14:00 | Session Room 8

Co-chairs:

Iris Semini, UNAIDS, Switzerland

Ruanne Barnabas, University of Washington, United States

Bridging Sessions

[The Use of Economic Interventions to Promote HIV Prevention and Treatment Objectives](#)

21 July, 14:30 - 16:00 | Session Room 12

Co-chairs:

David Wilson, The World Bank, United States

Nancy Padian, University of California, Berkeley, United States

Many countries around the world have used cash transfer programs to alleviate poverty, address economic inequalities, and improve health outcomes. Aside from cash transfers, financial incentives have also been used to influence specific behaviors such as school enrolment and attendance, healthcare utilization, and medication adherence. This session presents the perspective of program implementers, policymakers, researchers, and advocacy groups on the use of various forms of economic interventions in the response to HIV and AIDS. It discusses the use of economic interventions to prevent HIV transmissions and improve outcomes in the HIV prevention and treatment cascade, and recent evidence on the success or failure of such interventions. At the completion of the session participants will understand the difference between incentives programs and more general cash transfer programs, will be knowledgeable about their risks, sustainability, and broader consequences, and will be able to discuss the pros and cons of expanding the use of such programs.
