



Civil society engagement in a changing landscape

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GLOBAL NETWORK OF
YOUNG PEOPLE
LIVING WITH HIV



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Welcome

- Global Health Bingo

Why civil society matters..

- What is civil society?
<https://youtu.be/s2NDMxIO9mc?si=8G5aywZoMs3MSlqs>
- Fees must fall <https://youtu.be/yN8b6ZfHAil?si=zCaYsCBJVGQBvW3R>
- Treatment Action Campaign
https://youtu.be/tQPgdu1XrD0?si=8625c8WTOB_cN-aB
- HIV activism through music
https://youtu.be/dHMjH2LbNSA?si=QJ_kOs1p-MNi2tsZ

“Civil society refers to the collective realm of organized groups, associations, and individuals outside of government and business sectors. It encompasses non-profit organizations, community groups, and advocacy networks that promote social, cultural, and political change. Civil society plays a vital role in fostering democracy, civic engagement, and social progress.”

Young people in civil society initiatives

READY+

- Reached 30,000 adolescents and young people living with HIV in Eswatini, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe .
- Involved young people in critical high-level global health issues.

Her Voice Fund

- Empowered adolescent girls and young women by providing small grants to community-based organizations .
- Increased representation and influence of young women in key discussions and policies .

DREAMS

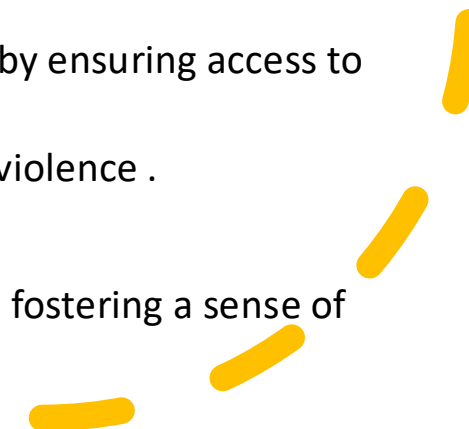
- Reduced HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa .
- Improved access to education, increased economic independence, and better health outcomes .

Knows no borders

- Addressed the health and rights of migrants and refugees by ensuring access to essential health services .
- Protected migrants and refugees from discrimination and violence .

webelongafrica

- Connected and empowered young people across Africa by fostering a sense of belonging and unity .



Power in collaboration and participation



Case Study : From Consultation to Commitment: How Youth Voices Shaped PEPFAR's Future

In 2023, young people from across Africa and beyond came together through the Youth Country Operational Plan (COP) process to articulate their priorities for HIV programming. This wasn't just a symbolic exercise—youth leaders engaged directly with policymakers, shared lived experiences, and proposed concrete solutions.

Their advocacy culminated in a landmark moment in March 2024, when Ambassador Dr. John Nkengasong, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, announced a \$20 million PEPFAR Youth Initiative during a hybrid youth session in Cape Town, South Africa 1 2.

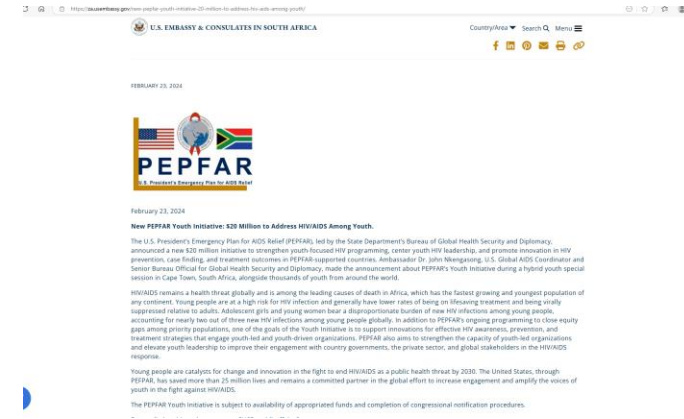


Power in collaboration and participation



The initiative aimed to:

- Strengthen youth-focused HIV programming
- Center youth leadership in HIV response
- Promote innovation in prevention, case finding, and treatment
- Support youth-led organizations to engage with governments and global stakeholders



“What would you advocate for if you were in that room in Cape Town?
What would your top three priorities be?”



Power in collaboration and participation



Other examples of collaboration/ civil society in action!



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The Lusaka Agenda – Reimagining Global Health Together



The Lusaka Agenda is the outcome of a 14-month global consultation process to reshape how Global Health Initiatives (GHIs) work—making them more aligned, efficient, and equitable.

Why does it matter?

- It's a call to action for governments, donors, civil society, and youth to co-create a future where:
 - Health systems are domestically financed
 - Global support is aligned with national priorities
 - No one is left behind in the journey to Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

The 5 Strategic Areas

1. Stronger Primary Health Care – investing in systems that serve everyone
2. Sustainable Financing – reducing dependency on external aid
3. Equity in Health Outcomes – addressing inequalities directly
4. Country Leadership – empowering national decision-making
5. Coordinated Action – aligning GHIs like the Global Fund, Gavi, etc.

The Lusaka Agenda was the outcome of the Future of Global Health Initiatives (FGHI) process, an informal 14-month process of consultation led by the governments of Norway and Kenya and Wellcome Trust that assessed how GHIs can more effectively and efficiently complement domestic financing to maximize health impacts in support of country-led priorities and trajectories to universal health coverage (UHC). Launched in December 2023, the Lusaka Agenda outlines five key shifts aimed at ensuring that external funding is aligned with national priorities and efforts to strengthen health systems through primary health care, promote sustainable and domestically financed health services, achieve equity in health outcomes, ensure strategic coherence, and coordinate research and development efforts. **WACI Health**



Homework

The Lusaka Agenda outlines 5 strategic shifts to transform global health.

Which one aligns most with your passion—and how will you integrate it into your work?

Instructions

1. Read the 5 shifts
2. Choose one shift that resonates with your idea.
3. Write one sentence explaining how your proposal supports or advances that shift.
4. Share back with the group and post it on a sticky wall.

Why Civil Society Matters in Global Health

1. Leaving no one behind!

- Civil society organizations (CSOs) bring the lived experiences of communities into policy, law reform, programming, learning, etc.

2. Watchdogs and holding duty bearers accountable

- CSOs monitor how resources are used, advocate for transparency, and ensure governments and donors deliver on their promises.

3. Innovation

- CSOs often create and scale up bold, community-led solutions that later scale into national programs (e.g., peer-led HIV testing, mobile clinics).

4. Equity and equality champions

- CSOs fight stigma, discrimination, and exclusion—ensuring no one is left behind, including youth, LGBTQ+ people, migrants, and people living with HIV, among many other issues.

5. Connectors

- CSOs connect governments, donors, and communities—translating policy into action and feedback into reform.

Thank you

