MAINSTREAMING HIV AND AIDS IN SECTORS & PROGRAMMES

An Implementation Guide for National Responses









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Acronyms



AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	NGO	NGO Non-Governmental Organization	
ART	Antiretroviral Treatment	NSF	National Strategic Framework	
BCC	Behavioral Change Communication	NSP	National Strategic Plan	
BDP	Bureau for Development Policy	UN – OHRLLS	United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Deve	
СВО	Community Based Organization		oped Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States	
CSO	Civil Society Organization	PRA	Participatory Rapid Appraisal	
DRI	District Response Initiative	PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	SEAHIV	South East Asia HIV and Development Programme	
FHI	Family Health International	SRA	Situation and Response Analysis	
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	SPP	Strategic Planning Process	
IEC	Information, Education and Communication	TOR	Terms of Reference	
ILO	International Labour Organization	UN	United Nations	
LGA	Local Government Authority	UNAIDS	United Nations United Nations Joint Programme on HIV and AIDS	
MAP	Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Programme	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund	
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture	UNGASS	United Nations General Assembly Special Session	
МоН	Ministry of Health	UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund	
MPF	Ministry of Planning and Finance	UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women	
MTP	Medium-Term Plan	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework	USAID	United States Agency for International Development	
NAA	National AIDS Authority	VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing	
NAC	National AIDS Commission	WB	The World Bank	
NAF	National AIDS Framework	WHO	World Health Organization	
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development	WFP	World Food Programme	
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Foreword Foreword

What sets AIDS apart as a growing global concern is its unprecedented impact on development. The economic and social impacts of AIDS are not uniform across countries nor within societies, yet wherever it strikes, AIDS affects individuals, communities and sectors, relentlessly eroding human capacity, productivity and prospects.

The 2001 UNGASS Declaration of Commitment enjoins countries to integrate AIDS responses into their development frameworks at national, sectoral and local levels. To achieve this, key stakeholders are to engage in a process of mainstreaming HIV and AIDS for multisectoral action in order to scale up AIDS responses. Effective AIDS responses are premised on strong interactive links between national development instruments, National Action Frameworks for HIV and AIDS, and sector plans. This integrated development and governance approach also provides a sound basis for countries to achieve the interrelated targets of the Millennium Declaration.

Substantially increased global financial resources available for HIV and AIDS multisectoral action provide a unique opportunity to accelerate country level responses to the epidemic. But a major challenge facing countries is to ensure that sufficient technical resources are available to strengthen capacity for effective implementation of the national response. A further challenge is how to coordinate and harmonise multi-stakeholder efforts that aim to achieve sustainable joint results. The adoption of the Three Ones principles bolsters efforts to address these challenges, ensuring collective harmonisation and alignment with national policies and strategies.

The UNAIDS Secretariat, UNDP and the World Bank collaboratively are developing a series on mainstreaming documents that promote advocacy, share lessons learned and provide tools for undertaking mainstreaming. This guide responds to the urgent need for a practical resource tool to support implementation of these principles in countries. It is a result of the growing international experience and consensus around what mainstreaming HIV and AIDS entails. It has been developed in response to demand on how to mainstream HIV and AIDS from designers and practitioners, National AIDS Authorities, and both public and private sectors.

What is new about this guide? The guide serves as a resource to enable immediate and practical action to implement National Action Frameworks for HIV and AIDS. It provides a unified approach which implementing stakeholders can use in close collaboration with National AIDS Authorities, with overall responsibility for monitoring national results.

The guide is presented in two complementary parts: Part I presents the essential concepts and lessons of mainstreaming, while Part II offers a simple step by step approach to mainstreaming AIDS-related strategies and activities into sectors and programmes.

The sector and programme focus gives a more targeted scope for implementation, making the guide useful to a wide range of stakeholders, including: line ministries, development programmes, decentralised institutions, local government and civil society organizations. Importantly, the guide offers a link to the upstream and downstream dimensions of multisectoral responses, where sector and programme mainstreaming effectively contributes to the re-formulation of National AIDS Frameworks and national development strategies, including PRSs. We welcome inputs and suggestions from users for continued refinement based on additional lessons learned through using this guide and the related documents.

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Acknowledgements

This Guide is the result of a very interactive and participatory process involving mainstreaming practitioners. The Guide was prepared by Joseph Annan and Nicole Kouassi, HIV and AIDS Group, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP. Special thanks go to the Core Review Team: Bob Verbruggen and Oussama Tawil UNAIDS Secretariat; Roland Msiska and Benjamin Ofosu-koranteng, Regional Service Centre, UNDP Johannesburg; Lee-Nah Hsu, independent consultant, for their invaluable work and inputs, especially at the consultation meeting held in New York in June 2005. Many thanks also to Karin Santi for facilitating the HIV and AIDS SURF Network electronic dialogue and to our Regional Bureau colleagues in Asia, Arab States, Latin America and Caribbean and Africa for their most constructive inputs. We wish to express our gratitude to Mirjam Van Donk, the UNDP consultant who provided the initial draft and to Peter Stegman, National AIDS Coordinating Agency, Botswan (NACA) for his hands-on country perspective. Finally, we express our appreciation to the numerous organizations including Family Health International (FHI), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), the Health Economics and HIV and AIDS Research Division (HEARD), OXFAM, UNDP South East Asia HIV and Development Programme (UNDP-SEAHIV) and and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), whose works are liberally included in the Guide.

PART 1

Essentials of Sector and Programmes Mainstreaming

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

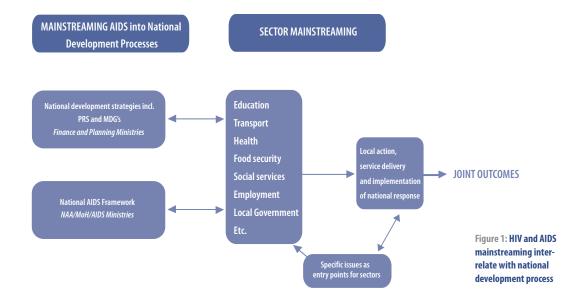


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1.1 Essentials of sector and programme mainstreaming

As the HIV and AIDS epidemic unfolds, it increasingly poses complex development challenges for countries. Mainstreaming HIV and AIDS into national development processes remains a key approach to addressing both the direct and indirect causes of the growing epidemic. By ensuring the integration of planning, resource and programming issues, mainstreaming enables a multisectoral and multi-stakeholder response.

The critical relationship between sector mainstreaming and mainstreaming in national development processes is represented in Figure 1 below. The close interdependence of the two processes usually involves interaction between the same national actors, planning authorities and development partners. Countries should undertake mainstreaming at the sectoral level as a way of establishing a multisectoral, multi-level response that is also responsive to larger national development goals. However, the key is to understand sector mainstreaming as implementation action, where individual sectors and institutions commit to specific activities to achieve joint outcomes for the national AIDS and development responses.



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The national HIV and AIDS response is an essential component of a country's national development strategy. To achieve agreed upon joint outcomes, all key stakeholders need to work collaboratively to define strategies and priorities for implementation.

This guide serves as a tool to implement national HIV and AIDS priorities within the wider national development context which include achieving the targets set for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) and other internationally agreed upon development goals.

1.2 Purpose of the guide

This guide aims to stimulate much-needed action and promote a programmatic approach to mainstreaming HIV and AIDS in sectors so that sectoral programmes incorporate HIV and AIDS relevant actions in their regular functions and annual institutional budget cycles. This step by step process guide is primarily directed at national policy makers, development planners and HIV and AIDS focal points in sector ministries and local governments. In addition, it is a useful capacity development resource for private sector business and trade unions and not-for-profit sector, such as NGOs and community groups.

The guide is useful in strengthening the knowledge and capacity for implementing the National AIDS Framework where sector responsibilities for implementation have been defined. 1 It is also useful in the following situations where:

- □ Resources are allocated for specific sectors to mainstream HIV and AIDS concerns but the sectoral implementation strategies have not been defined
- □ Sectoral and local government strategies have been developed but responsibilities are not vet defined

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around mainstreaming. ² This 'how to' guide complements the existing documents and tools by providing a synthesis of the practical experiences in mainstreaming gained over the years by different sectors in countries. This guide stimulates active sectoral participation while anchoring HIV and AIDS concerns within the mandatory functions of sectors and programmes. While the focus is on HIV and AIDS, the approaches and methods offered can easily be adapted for mainstreaming other cross-cutting concerns, particularly gender and poverty.

The guide does not address specific thematic HIV and AIDS issues directly, such as how to roll out Antiretroviral Treatment (ART), impact mitigation projects, or Behavioural Change Communication programmes. Instead, it locates mainstreaming in a multisectoral development context that outlines what individual sectors (including the health sector), institutions and programmes can do to achieve HIV and AIDS and development priorities.

1.3 Mainstreaming HIV and AIDS defined

UNAIDS has recently proposed the following working definition of mainstreaming AIDS:

Mainstreaming AIDS is a process that enables development actors to address the causes and effects of AIDS in an effective and sustained manner, both through their usual work and within their workplace.

Mainstreaming addresses both the direct and indirect aspects of HIV and AIDS within the context of the normal functions of an organization or community. It is essentially a process whereby a sector analyses how HIV and AIDS can impact it now and in the future, and considers how sectoral policies, decisions and actions might influence the longer-term development of the epidemic and the sector.

To respond effectively to the epidemic, it requires exceptional responses that demonstrate timeliness, scale, inclusiveness, partnerships, innovation and responsiveness. In other words, to stay on top of the rapidly evolving epidemics, actions need to be incorporated into sectors' normal operations while simultaneously continue seeking innovations and extending new partnerships. Mainstreaming HIV and AIDS is a collective and

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^{2.} UNAIDS and UNDP have jointly compiled these resources in a user-friendly CD-ROM, also available on: www.unaids.org and www.undp.org