

JOINT PROGRAMME ON INTEGRATING AIDS INTO PRSPs

ROUND 1

A REVIEW OF EXPERIENCES



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Acknowledgments

This progress report is a result of the contributions of many people. The report draws entirely on the experiences of participating countries as shared and reported by the Joint Programme country teams. Hence the report would not have been possible without the contributions of country team members including UNDP HIV and AIDS Focal Points, representatives of government, civil society organizations, and faith based organizations.

Country teams shared their knowledge, experience and insights through issues papers, progress reports and through presentations and discussions during the review workshop in Nairobi in February 2007. Members of country teams also reviewed the final draft of the report to confirm the information and provide additional inputs.

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Foreword

While AIDS is becoming more widely accepted as a multisectoral issue that can severely undermine development goals, the emphasis is now on translating this acceptance into effective planning, policy making, and practical implementation beyond the AIDS sector.

This means sustained efforts are needed to ensure that the developmental causes and consequences of AIDS are taken into account in poverty reduction strategies and in policies and programmes across key sectors. In support of such efforts, UNDP, the World Bank, and the UNAIDS Secretariat established the Joint Programme to strengthen the capacity of countries to better integrate AIDS into national planning efforts, particularly into Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) processes .

The first round of countries started implementation of Joint Programme activities at the end of 2005, followed by the second round in 2006, and the third in 2007. The experiences of the first seven countries have been compiled in this progress report - the first in a series of publications that will document the experiences of countries participating in the Joint Programme.

The activities implemented by the first round of countries illustrate how well-timed initiatives aimed at developing mainstreaming capacities can influence the integration of AIDS in the various stages of the PRS cycle. Some of the promising results achieved in these countries included broader participation of stakeholders in the PRS processes, and improved AIDS content in the PRSs. In some countries well-targeted mainstreaming activities led to improved alignment of the PRS with the National Strategic Plan, as well as better alignment of sector strategies, Medium Term Expenditure Frameworks (MTEF) and government budgets with the AIDS content of the PRSP. Some countries at the implementation stage of the PRS process demonstrated how they have begun to plan and coordinate efforts for implementation of the AIDS-related aspects of the PRS.

The experience of the first round of countries reflects the dynamic nature of the PRS process and the importance of well-timed capacity development initiatives being anchored in existing national planning processes. It also highlights the challenges in identifying and addressing complex interactions between AIDS and diverse development issues, as well as the ongoing challenge of ensuring implementation of the AIDS-related aspects of PRSs beyond integration of AIDS into the PRS content and sector plans.

The country experiences shared in this report provide strategies and possibilities for engagement in strengthening the integration of AIDS at various stages of the Poverty Reduction Strategy process. They also highlight the practical issues and challenges faced by country teams and the lessons learned in addressing some of these issues. We hope the report will provide development practitioners with ideas, information and resources that will support their work in developing national capacities to more effectively integrate AIDS in national development processes.



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ABCT	AIDS Business Coalition of Tanzania
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
CCI	Cross-cutting issues (Rwanda)
CFA	Country Follow-Up Activities
CNLS	Commission Nationale de Lutte Contre le SIDA (NAC) (Rwanda, Senegal)
CSLP	Cadre Stratégique de Lutte Contre la Pauvreté (PRSP) (Mali)
CSPLP	Poverty Reduction Unit (Senegal)
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DfID	Department for International Development (of the United Kingdom)
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DSRP	Document Stratégique de Réduction de la Pauvreté (PRSP) (Senegal)
EDPRS	Economic Development for Poverty Reduction Strategy (Rwanda)
EICV	Integrated Living Conditions Survey (Rwanda)
FBO	Faith-based Organization
FNDP	Fifth National Development Plan (Zambia)
GAMET	Global AIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Team
GPRS	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (Ghana)
GTT	Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors
HAPCO	HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (Ethiopia)
HCNLS	Haut Conseil pour la Lutte Contre le SIDA (NAC) (Mali)
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRH	Human Resources for Health (Tanzania [Mainland])
IDU	Injecting Drug User
IP	Issues Paper
LGA	Local Government Authority
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAP	Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program for Africa (World Bank)
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance (Senegal)
MoFNP	Ministry of Finance and National Planning (Zambia)
MP	Member of Parliament
MTEF	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
NAC	National AIDS Coordinating Authority (or Council/ Commission)

NASA	National AIDS Spending Assessment
NDP	National Development Plan
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) (Ghana)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NMSF	National Multisectoral Strategic Framework (Tanzania)
NPF	National HIV and AIDS Partnership Forum
NSF	National Strategic Framework
NSP	National Strategic Plan
NSGRP/ MKUKUTA	National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA in Kiswahili) (Tanzania [Mainland])
ONUSIDA	The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PASDEP	Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty
PDESC	Social, Economic and Cultural Development Plans (Mali)
PER	Public Expenditure Review
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PNMLS	National Strategic Plan of Mali
PPMED	Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (Ghana)
PRS	Poverty Reduction Strategy
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PRSP II	Second-Generation Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RSC	Regional Service Centre (of UNDP)
SE/HCNLS	Executive Secretariat of the National AIDS Council (Mali)
SMTDP	Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (Ghana)
TACAIDS	Tanzania Commission for AIDS
TAPAC	Tanzania Parliamentarians Coalition against AIDS
TOMSHA	Tanzania Output Monitoring System for Non-medical HIV and AIDS Interventions
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSF	Technical Support Facility (UNAIDS)
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNGASS	United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV and AIDS
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollars
ZAC	Zanzibar AIDS Commission
ZSGRP	Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty

Executive Summary

Introduction

This report is a progress review of the experiences of the seven countries participating in the first round of the Joint UNDP, World Bank and UNAIDS Programme to strengthen capacity in integrating AIDS into poverty reduction strategies. The seven countries are Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania (Mainland and Zanzibar) and Zambia. The review covers the Joint Programme activities in these countries from November 2005 to February 2007.

The purpose of the report is to document the progress made and the results achieved in the first year of implementation of the Joint Programme, and to facilitate the exchange of country experiences in supporting the process of integrating AIDS into poverty reduction strategies. The review also allows the sponsors of the Joint Programme to assess the results of the programme after the first year of activities, and to draw some conclusions concerning the priorities and future direction of the programme.

The report provides **individual country reviews** of the experiences of each of the seven countries in the first year of implementation of the Joint Programme (Section 3), as well as **cross-country overviews** of the issues, activities, results and lessons learned in the seven participating countries (Sections 4 and 5). In addition, the report provides information on the tools and resources developed and applied at the country level, as well as the sources of technical support that can be drawn on to enhance AIDS mainstreaming efforts.

The first draft of this report was based on a desk review of all Joint Programme documentation¹ of the seven participating countries. This draft was updated and validated during the Joint Programme progress review workshop held in Nairobi in February 2007. The final draft was reviewed by country teams and by the Joint Programme management team (UNDP, UNAIDS and the World Bank) and consultants to confirm the information and provide further inputs.

Joint Programme Background

The joint UNDP, World Bank and UNAIDS Secretariat programme to strengthen the capacity of countries to integrate AIDS priorities into poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs) was established in response to one of the recommendations made by the Global Task Team (GTT)².

After an initial assessment in mid-2005, 14 countries were identified for participation in the Joint Programme based on their PRSP performance and cycle (i.e. a PRSP revision process was expected to take place during the years 2005 to 2007). The countries were then invited to express their interest to participate in two successive cycles of the programme in 2005 and 2006. The first group of countries, comprising Ethiopia, Mali, Senegal, Rwanda, Ghana, Tanzania (Mainland and Zanzibar) and Zambia, began the first cycle of the programme in August 2005. The second group of countries, comprising Burkina Faso, Burundi, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and Uganda, began the second cycle in June 2006.

1. See list of reviewed documents (page 54)

2. Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors. Final report 14 June 2005. UNAIDS, Geneva.

Four Key Entry Points of the Joint Programme

The Joint Programme uses four key entry points as the framework for country analysis and planning. These key entry points are based on the main processes involved in the preparation of PRSPs, each of which needs to reflect the adequate integration of AIDS. The four key entry points are:

1. **Participatory Process:** increasing the participation and representation of all relevant segments of the population in designing and implementing AIDS responses within the framework of the PRSP
2. **Diagnostic Studies and Analysis:** providing evidence for PRSP formulation and implementation through analysis of the linkages between AIDS, poverty, gender, income and other inequalities, and other factors contributing to HIV vulnerability and AIDS impact
3. **Policies, Strategies and Resources:** taking account of AIDS in macroeconomic and sectoral policies and ensuring these are costed
4. **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):** monitoring and assessing the implementation of the AIDS strategies in the PRSP, as part of the overall M&E framework of the poverty reduction strategy

Implementation Arrangements of the First Cycle of the Joint Programme

At the start of the first cycle of the Joint Programme, preparatory missions were fielded to each of the seven participating countries to brief counterparts and stakeholders about the programme and to assist in carrying out a preliminary assessment of the main challenges in mainstreaming AIDS. Each country then developed an issues paper (IP) to identify the main challenges and issues faced in integrating AIDS into the poverty reduction strategy. All seven country teams were then invited to participate in the first regional capacity-building workshop in Johannesburg in November 2005, during which they developed action plans, known as country follow-up activities (CFA), with priority actions to be implemented over the following year. These country follow-up activities were informed by the issues paper and the discussions during the workshop, and were built around the four key entry points of the PRSP process.

Immediately after the workshop, the UNDP HIV Group made seed funding of USD 80,000 per country available for CFA implementation. Implementation of CFA began in early 2006, with the UNDP country office in charge of coordinating support at the country level. Several country teams mobilized additional funds from UNDP Country Offices and the World Bank Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program for Africa (MAP). Most CFA were embedded in ongoing national planning processes; hence, in many instances, activities were implemented and/or funded by multiple country level actors and the CFA were integrated into these existing activities.

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