

IDS Health & Development Information

one of a family of knowledge services from the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, UK

[Health Resource Guide](#)
[Health Systems Resource Guide](#)
[HIV and AIDS Resource Guide](#)
[id21 Health](#)

HIV and AIDS REPORTER: focus on civil society and the 'Three Ones' 19 December 2006

produced by the [IDS Health and Development Information](#) team in collaboration with [Eldis](#) and the [DFID Health Resource Centre](#)

This is our monthly email bulletin, bringing together research to inform policy debates on health in developing countries.

The HIV and AIDS Reporter aims to provide readers with a more in-depth look at a particular area of health policy. This month's theme is **civil society and the Three Ones**. The bulletin also features summaries of new documents and other additions to the [HIV and AIDS Resource Guide](#).

HIV and AIDS Reporter archive - an archive is now available on the HIV and AIDS Resource Guide. See previous issues of the HIV and AIDS Reporter at <http://www.eldis.org/health/archive.htm>

All documents listed below are available free on the web. If you are unable to access any of these materials online and would like to receive a copy of a document as an email attachment, please contact i.young@ids.ac.uk.

Contents:

- [Feature: civil society and the Three Ones](#)
- [Recommended readings on civil society and the Three Ones](#)
 1. [Civil society and the 'Three Ones'](#)
 2. [Summary of the e-Forum on Civil Society and the 'Three Ones'](#)
 3. [Transforming the national AIDS response: mainstreaming gender equality and women's human rights into the 'Three Ones'](#)
 4. [Putting the 'Three Ones' to work: National AIDS Commissions](#)
 5. [Renewing our voice: code of good practice for NGOs responding to HIV/AIDS](#)
 6. [New approaches to the 'Third One' in a changing M&E landscape](#)
- [Other recommended readings](#)
 1. [Child vulnerability and HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa: what we know and what can be done](#)

2. [Microfinance and HIV prevention: emerging lessons from rural South Africa](#)
3. [Breaking barriers: effective communication for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010](#)
4. [BRIDGE Cutting Edge Pack: gender and sexuality](#)
5. [Fulfilling fatherhood: experiences from HIV positive fathers](#)

- [Announcements](#)

Feature: civil society and the Three Ones

Civil society (any non-governmental individual, group or sector) has played an important role in the response to HIV and AIDS. Many have highlighted the need to learn from these responses and think about how to support and build on them. However, in order for this to happen, mechanisms need to be established to create spaces for civil society involvement and dialogue with government and other sectors. The UNAIDS concept of the Three Ones recognises the crucial role of civil society engagement at national level.

The 'Three Ones' principles are:

- **One agreed HIV/AIDS Action Framework** that provides the basis for coordinating the work of all partners
- **One National AIDS Coordinating Authority**, with a broad-based multisectoral mandate
- **One agreed country-level Monitoring and Evaluation System.**

These principles, established in 2004, are meant to harmonise and coordinate national responses to HIV and AIDS, and in particular, increase national ownership and accountability. Rather than being prescriptive, they aim to provide a number of guiding principles and offer countries a basis for improving roles and relationships, including those with civil society.

Many have argued that involvement in the 'Three Ones' brings both opportunities and challenges for civil society and for its contribution to be harmonised with national action on HIV and AIDS. [ICASO](#) (International Council of AIDS Service Organizations) and the [International HIV/AIDS Alliance](#) highlight key issues for consideration, including: how to incorporate the Three Ones into existing finance, health and social systems; the need to improve communication and information dissemination and learning about the Three Ones at all levels; and the need to ensure adequate support to make this process work. [The International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS](#) (ICW) ask how obstacles to achieving meaningful participation of people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA) in the design, development and implementation of the Three Ones will be overcome?

In 2005, a three month e-forum on civil society involvement in the three ones addressed these questions. As a first step, participants of the e-forum suggested that developing and widely disseminating a set of global guidelines and benchmarks for civil society participation should be undertaken. The discussion also suggested that further localising the 'Three One's' was necessary, through creating country-specific guidelines for civil society participation based on

each country context.

ICW contend that meaningful involvement by those affected by HIV will require capacity building and training not just for PLHWA to engage with government civil society and at the international level. For those working in the arenas where meaningful involvement needs to take place, such as workplaces, service providers, government ministries, national AIDS councils & coordinating bodies, NGOS, and with international policy makers, building an better understanding of GIPA (greater involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS) through training is also needed to effect real change.

For more information see:

- UNAIDS information on the Three Ones
www.unaids.org/en/Coordination/Initiatives/three_ones.asp
- UNAIDS Three Ones Key Principles
http://data.unaids.org/UNA-docs/Three-Ones_KeyPrinciples_en.pdf
- ICW statement on the Three Ones
www.icw.org/node/139
- Also see the Role of Civil society in the Vulnerability, HIV and AIDS Key Issues Guide
<http://www.eldis.org/hivaids/vulnerability/key/policy.htm>

Recommended readings on civil society and the Three Ones

1. Civil society and the 'Three Ones'

Authors: International HIV/AIDS Alliance; International Council of AIDS Service Organisations (2005)

This discussion paper examines the issues and questions that are emerging for civil society around the development of the 'Three Ones' initiative. It is based upon the practical experiences and strategic discussions of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance, International Council of AIDS Service Organisations and their partners and members. The document reviews civil society involvement with the Three Ones, highlighting potential opportunities such as: responses based on real needs, addressing marginalised and vulnerable populations and technical support and capacity building. It also flags up potential challenges, including: ownership of national HIV and AIDS responses, capacity of civil society and issues of selection and representation.

The document calls for next steps to include the development of generic guidelines for civil society involvement in implementing the 'Three Ones'. It also suggests the need to develop and finance comprehensive, high quality and appropriate capacity building tools to enable effective civil society participation as well as to maximise existing resources. Other necessary steps include: providing specific technical and moral support, guided or led by civil society itself, enhancing communication and information dissemination about the 'Three Ones' at all levels, and developing relevant indicators in collaboration with other sectors to assess the effectiveness of civil society participation. [adapted from authors]

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC17922>

[Back to list](#)

2. Summary of the e-Forum on civil society and the 'Three Ones'

Produced by: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)(2005)

This report summarises discussions from an e-forum on civil society and the 'Three Ones' that took place in over three months in 2005. The 'Three ones' referred to are: one national framework for action; one national AIDS coordinating body; and one national monitoring and evaluation system. The discussion aimed to: identify how civil society is already contributing to the 'Three Ones' initiative; address the major constraints to increased participation; and develop a set of experienced-based solutions for greater involvement of civil society in all aspects of the Three Ones initiative. The document outlines suggestions for strengthening participation for each of the 'Ones' and includes country examples of where this has happened. Key constraints to participation identified include: lack of communication; personality and culture clashes; domination of larger organisations; resource! constraints; lack of effective leadership; and skills, knowledge and information gaps.

The participants suggested that effective civil society participation requires strong and committed leadership on the part of government and civil society. A first step towards this would be to develop and widely disseminate a set of global guidelines and benchmarks for civil society participation and 'localise' the Three Ones' by creating country-specific guidelines for participation based on each country context. Factors identified that could contribute to more effective civil society mobilisation include: an accommodating civil service; clear prioritisation of HIV and AIDS issues; documentation and indexing of various NGO programmes; constant feedback to communities served by CSOs; and strong leaders who have faith in civil society contributions to HIV and AIDS. [adapted from author]

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC22679>

[Back to list](#)

3. Transforming the national AIDS response: mainstreaming gender equality and women's human rights into the 'Three Ones'

Produced by: United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (2006)

This is an executive summary of a resource guide due to be published in 2007. The resource guide highlights strategies to prevent and treat HIV and AIDS that ensure that gender equality is promoted and protected as a key element. It also outlines tools, checklists and guidelines on how to conduct gender and human rights audits and analyses to inform HIV and AIDS policies, frameworks and their implementation.

The 'Three Ones' referred to are:

- national AIDS action framework
- national AIDS coordinating authority
- country-level monitoring and evaluation system

Four challenges in addressing the gender equality and women's rights aspect of HIV and AIDS are identified:

- an absence of an enabling legislation and policy environment that takes these into account
- an insufficient allocation of national and donors resources going towards HIV and AIDS

programmes that address gender equality dimensions

- a need to transfer skills and build capacity on integrating gender equality into national HIV and AIDS responses
- low participation of women at the decision-making, implementing and monitoring stages of the national AIDS response

Recommendations on how to meet these challenges include:

- national AIDS action frameworks and HIV/AIDS policies need to be aligned with international commitments and declarations speaking to gender equality, women's human rights and the AIDS pandemic
- there should be gender balance in policy-making and implementing structures in the national AIDS coordinating authority (NACA)
- the NACA's work plans and budgets must be gender-responsive, and funds should be assigned for ongoing capacity building in gender analysis
- stakeholder consultations should include a balanced representation of women
- monitoring and evaluation processes and indicators must be designed in consultation with women's groups and positive women's networks
- gender-responsive budgeting tools should be used for tracking whether HIV/AIDS allocations and expenditure on prevention, treatment and care services benefit women
- sex-disaggregated HIV/AIDS data must be complimented by qualitative analysis that measures changes in men's and women's attitudes, practices and knowledge as national AIDS policies and programmes are implemented.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC22635>

[Back to list](#)

4. Putting the 'Three Ones' to work: National AIDS Commissions

Authors: Mackay, B.; Laurence, C.

Produced by: Policy Project, Futures Group, Washington (2005)

This Futures Groups policy briefing comments on how National AIDS Commissions (NACs) have been used to implement the goal of each country having a single coordinating authority on HIV and AIDS. This goal forms part of the UNAIDS 'Three Ones' framework, which aims to unify country-level HIV and AIDS action. The authors argue that recent criticisms of NACs, depicting them simply as a tool for donors to implement conditions on aid, underestimate the genuine demand for a multi-sectoral lead. However, donor conditions have influenced the speed and nature of NAC development and political tensions between organisations have also been created. Yet, NACs continue to play an increasingly important role.

The authors outline how the creation and maintenance of a single national AIDS coordinating authority is a political as well as a technical issue and should be treated as such from the start. They highlight the need to recognise that many of the tasks faced by NACs are very demanding of their staff, and that expectations may need to be reduced. Finally, there is a need to examine agencies which are successful at coordinating, and to consider what makes them effective in HIV and AIDS, as well as in other fields. [adopted from authors]

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC18835>

[Back to list](#)

5. Renewing our voice: code of good practice for NGOs responding to HIV/AIDS

Authors: The NGO HIV/AIDS Code of Practice Project
(2006)

This publication, from the NGO (non-governmental organisations) HIV/AIDS code of practice project, sets out a number of guiding principles, which apply a human rights approach to the range of HIV-related health, development and humanitarian work done by NGOs. These include: advocating for the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV and AIDS (PLHA) and affected communities in all aspects of HIV and AIDS responses, protecting and promoting human rights, and applying public health principles in NGO work. The code also outlines the need to address causes of vulnerability to HIV infection and the impacts of HIV and AIDS. It emphasises that all programmes must be informed by evidence in order to respond to the needs of those most vulnerable to HIV and AIDS.

Chapter three outlines key organisational principles: advocacy, research, access and equity, multi-sectoral partnerships, involvement of PLHA, governance, and scaling-up. Chapter four outlines programming principles, which encompass cross-cutting issues, prevention, and voluntary counselling and testing, as well as mainstreaming HIV and AIDS development and humanitarian programming. The final section provides a number of key resources, such as tool kits and manuals which can assist in putting the principles into practice. [adapted from author]

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC16630>

[Back to list](#)

6. New approaches to the 'Third One' in a changing M&E landscape

Authors: Global AIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Team
Published by: World Bank (2006)

This note from the World Bank summarises recent progress and challenges in meeting the "Third One" -- one national Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System -- and analyses their implications for future M&E support to countries by development partners. The report notes that there has been an increased recognition of the importance of and investment in M&E systems for HIV and AIDS. However, a number of challenges still remain, including: national M&E strategies are not always aligned to national HIV and AIDS strategies; a lack of M&E strategies in some countries; a lack of support for sub-national and community based strategies; a lack of funding for evaluations; and data is not synthesised, analysed or used to support policy, programme and strategic management.

The report notes the changing M&E landscape, and highlights how countries are increasingly demanding more specific M&E technical assistance, sound M&E frameworks, and AIDS programmes with M&E to better support programme management. To respond to these changing needs, the author suggests the need for increased flexibility in current models that emphasise long-term deployment of M&E generalists. The author also suggest that countries should work together to develop and M&E road map that charts the work to be done and identifies who will take responsibility and provide the needed resources. [adapted from author]

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC22729>

[Back to list](#)

Other recommended readings

1. Child vulnerability and HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa: what we know and what can be done

Authors: Gillespie, S.; Norman, A.; Finley, B.

Published by: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)(2005)

This report from the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) examines the available evidence on the children in developing countries who have been made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS. As well as analysing the multiple aspects of these children's vulnerability, the report also brings together evidence from successful projects aimed at responding to these children's needs. Using this, the report highlights some key principles in developing policies directed at helping these children and also highlights some important areas where further research is required.

The report finds that the well-being of children affected by HIV and AIDS is closely tied to the levels of poverty in their family and community. Policies aimed at responding to these children's needs should start at the local level and work through supporting and strengthening the capacity of the extended family and the community. These policies should take a broad, multisectoral approach, but should also adopt a 'child's eye' view of poverty. This involves recognising that discrimination, along lines of age for instance, may mean that not all policies aimed at helping the family will benefit the child. The report calls for more research to identify children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS, and to understand the psycho-social, as well as material, aspects of their vulnerability.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC23173>

[Back to list](#)

2. Microfinance and HIV prevention: emerging lessons from rural South Africa

Authors: Pronyk, P.; Kim, J.; Hargreaves, J.; Makhubele, M.; et al.

Published by: Rural AIDS and Development Action Research Programme (RADAR)(2005)

This article from the Rural AIDS and Development Action Research Program (RADAR) examines the role that microfinance institutions (MFIs) can play in responding to the HIV epidemic in developing countries. The article uses a case study from South Africa, the Intervention with Microfinance for AIDS and Gender Equity (IMAGE) project, to assess how effectively MFIs can be used in HIV prevention.

There are three ways in which MFIs and the AIDS epidemic intersect. One is that the economic impact of high HIV prevalence and high levels of mortality due to AIDS in some populations has made MFIs less successful and less effective in reducing poverty. Secondly, MFIs can help to lessen the negative economic impact of HIV infection on households. Thirdly, it is often a combination of poverty and gender inequality which makes women in some countries particularly vulnerable to HIV. Through reducing poverty and empowering women, MFIs can play an important role in HIV prevention. The article outlines how HIV perspectives can be mainstreamed within MFIs at the level of policy and of operations. The evidence from the IMAGE project in South Africa is used to show the potential effectiveness of this approach, but also the challenges and limitations which it presents.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC23174>

[Back to list](#)

3. Breaking barriers: effective communication for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010

Authors: Vincent, R.

Published by: Panos AIDS Programme (2006)

This report from Panos argues that there is an urgent need to strengthen communication approaches in HIV prevention work, and in projects aimed at increasing access to HIV testing, treatment and care. The report assesses what lessons can be learned from the successful responses to the epidemic that have been carried out in various countries. A key finding is that the best approach is to build on and strengthen local initiatives by the communities most affected by HIV. The role of development workers is to provide access to an array of communication strategies and tools, and access to the lessons learned by other communities in responding to the epidemic. Development organisations should promote and fund participatory communication approaches to creating social change.

The report points to the importance of engaging with the range and complexity of issues, such as gender, culture and poverty, that are driving the epidemic and creating barriers to accessing treatment. While supporting local initiatives, development organisations should also maintain pressure on national governments to improve public health systems and the infrastructure of social support, as well as to fighting the causes of poverty and discrimination that are contributing to the epidemic. It is also important to ensure that governments include a communication strategy in their country plans for creating universal access to HIV treatment by 2010.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC23086>

[Back to list](#)

4. BRIDGE Cutting Edge Pack: gender and sexuality

Authors: Ilkkaracan, P.; Jolly, S.

Published by: BRIDGE (2006)

Have development interventions promoted only negative messages in relation to sexuality, ignoring poor people's rights to pleasure, affirmation and joy through sex and sexuality? This Cutting Edge Pack hopes to inspire thinking on this question - with an Overview Report outlining key issues on gender, sexuality and sexual rights in the current climate, a Supporting Resources Collection providing summaries of key texts, tools, case studies and contacts of organisations in this field, and a Gender and Development In Brief newsletter with three short articles on the theme.

Topics explored in the pack are:

- what are the links between gender and sexuality and why are they so central to development?
- how can we re-frame concepts of sexual rights?
- sexual rights and the current political context
- new thinking on sexual rights and how to put this into practice

The report finds that international institutions, governments, NGOs, development agencies, the women's movement, human rights activists need to:

- recognise the importance of sexuality and sexual rights in people's lives
- recognise that sexuality is more than a health and violence issue
- identify the interconnections with well-being and ill-being, wealth and poverty, integration and marginalisation, and the significance of sexuality in political struggles
- support integrated approaches to sexuality which challenge gender, race, class and other structures of power
- take an inclusive and gendered approach to sexual rights open to all - women who may be denied their rights by gender inequality, transgender whose very existence may be ignored, and straight men who may be assumed not to need these rights as they are perceived to already have it all
- go beyond rights to be free from violence, to support positive rights and rights to pleasure as well

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC22166>

[Back to list](#)

5. Fulfilling fatherhood: experiences from HIV positive fathers

Authors: International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF); The Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+) (2006)

This document from the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) highlights some of the issues facing men who are living with HIV and who are fathers. It contains thirteen personal accounts by men living with HIV in various countries in Europe, Africa, Asia, and North and South America.

The men are in a variety of different family arrangements. They discuss how they disclosed their status to their children and how living with HIV has affected their relationship with their children. Some of the men also discuss how they made a decision with their partner to become a parent after being diagnosed, and the younger men discuss their feelings about the possibility of making that decision in the future. Those fathers living in poor countries express their anxieties about their children's future should illness or death mean that they will not be able to provide for them. All of the men express their commitment to working to end the stigma around HIV and believe that fathers living with HIV can play an important role in communicating messages about HIV prevention.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC23169>

[Back to list](#)

See the HIV and AIDS Resource Guide for a complete list of new additions at:
<http://www.eldis.org/hiv aids/index.htm>

Announcements

Regional Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation of HIV/AIDS Programmes

The Centre Africain d'Etudes Superieures en Gestion (CESAG), based in Dakar, Senegal is offering a regional workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation of HIV/AIDS Programs. This two-week course will take place February 5-16, 2007 and will be taught in French. The workshop will offer intensive training that will cover the fundamental concepts and tools for monitoring and evaluating HIV/AIDS programs. The workshop will include sessions on: The Role of Strategic Information in Decision Making; M&E Frameworks; Indicators; Information Systems; Evaluation Designs; Developing M&E Plans; Selecting, Calculating and Interpreting Indicators; and Facilitating the Use of Strategic Information. In addition, modules on program areas and cross cutting issues appropriate for the Africa region will also be included.

Hands-on experience in designing monitoring and evaluation plans will be gained by doing exercises, and working in small groups throughout the workshop. The participant groups will present the results of their projects during the final day of the workshop.

The course is designed for national and sub-national level M&E professionals and their counterparts, assistants and advisors who are involved with the implementation of HIV/AIDS programs. The fee for the workshop is course is 2,000,000 FCFA including room and board at the CESAG facilities. These costs do not include airfare, visa fees, or other expenses. A limited number of MEASURE Evaluation fellowships are available for qualified applicants who are citizens of USAID-assisted countries. Please note that the application deadline is January 5, 2007.

Please refer to the attached brochure for additional information. For more information contact the MEASURE Evaluation Training Officer (measure_project@jsi.com) or CESAG (Amani.koffi@cesag.sn) with any questions regarding this training opportunity.

For more information, see: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC23213>

Conference: 8th International AIDS Impact Conference, Marseille, France , 1-4 July, 2007

Registration and abstract submission is now open for AIDS Impact 2007. The AIDS Impact conference is specifically devoted to Human and Social Sciences in the field of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The last conference, held in 2005 in Cape Town, South Africa, attracted more than 700 participants from all over the world. It was also a unique opportunity to give more space to research in social sciences dealing with the HIV epidemic in developing countries. Abstract Deadline: 22 January 2007, late Breaker: 1 April 2007, abstracts are to be submitted in English only and must not have been previously published or presented. They should be no longer than 300 words.

For more information, see: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC23222>

Survey: Missing the Message

Missing the Message - 20 years of learning from HIV/AIDS was launched on World AIDS Day back in 2003. Did the report influence your HIV and AIDS communication thinking and practice? Help us evaluate the impact of the publication, by answering the following questions:

- In what ways did the report help you better understand HIV and AIDS communication thinking and practice?
- Did the report contribute to any change in HIV and AIDS communication policy and practice within your organisation? If so, in what ways?
- Did you recommend the report to someone else and/or have you quoted or in other ways used Missing the Message in your work?

Please email your replies to hivaids@panos.org.uk - please include your name and organisation.

See the complete list of new additions, announcements, job adverts at: www.eldis.org/hivaids

The HIV and AIDS Reporter is produced by the IDS Health and Development Information team in collaboration with the DFID Health Resource Centre (HRC) and Eldis.

The IDS Health and Development Information team promotes health and equity in developing countries through the provision of high quality, accessible information to policymakers and practitioners. IDS Health and Development Information currently has three flagship products:

- Health Resource Guide - <http://www.eldis.org/health/index.htm>
- Health Systems Resource Guide - <http://www.eldis.org/healthsystems/index.htm>
- HIV and AIDS Resource Guide - <http://www.eldis.org/hivaids/index.htm>

The HRC provides access to technical assistance and information for the Department for International Development (DFID UK), and its partners, in support of pro-poor health policies as well as health systems, service delivery and public health topics and programmes.

Eldis currently includes descriptions and links to over 4,500 organisations and over 16,000 full-text online documents covering development and environmental issues. It can be searched or browsed free over the Internet.

You are welcome to re-use material from this bulletin on your own website, provided that it is accompanied by an acknowledgement to Eldis and a link to the Eldis website (either to our home page or to the home page of one of our Resource Guides). An alternative way to add Eldis content to your website is by adding one of our [newsfeeds](#).

If you are unable to access any of these materials online and would like to receive a copy of a document as an email attachment, please contact our editor at the email address given below.

Eldis is funded by DFID, Sida, SDC and NORAD, and hosted by the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, UK.

If you like the Health Reporter, you may also be interested in subscribing to the other Reporters produced by the IDS Health and Development Information Team:

- Health Reporter
- Health Systems Reporter

- to subscribe, email hrc-health@ids.ac.uk

Please forward this email bulletin to colleagues and networks who may be interested.