

UNAIDS 2025

Result Area 6: Gender Equality

2024 Results Report

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2024 Expenditures and encumbrances for all Cosponsors against allocated funds (in US\$)

Core		Non-core		Total	
Core Allocated Funds	Expenditures and encumbrances	Non-core estimates	Expenditures and encumbrances	Total allocated funds	Total Expenditures and encumbrances
\$4 634 026	\$3 629 758	\$31 015 800	\$27 247 877	\$35 649 826	\$30 877 636

Policy guidance, tools, knowledge and analysis developed, disseminated and their use promoted to integrate gender equality issues into the HIV response and to mobilize women in all their diversity, together with men.

The Joint Programme continued to advocate for and supported the adoption and implementation of global commitments, evidence-informed norms and standards on gender equality and women's empowerment, including on gender-based violence in the context of HIV. At the 68th Commission on the Status of Women, Member States unanimously reaffirmed the 2016 60/2 Resolution on women, the girl child and HIV and AIDS, following a collaborative effort by UN Women, UNFPA and the Secretariat. The Resolution reasserts the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and calls for accelerated efforts to address women and girls' vulnerabilities in the context of HIV. With UN-Women's policy support, SADC also adopted and rolled out a regional framework and programme of action to implement the Resolution and monitor progress.

Additionally, the Joint Programme supported the core group and negotiations for Resolution 56/20 at the Human Rights Council—on human rights in the context of HIV—which was adopted by consensus. The Resolution reiterates the need for action to support gender equality, end gender-based violence and harmful gender norms, provide comprehensive education in relation to sexual health, and included the first-ever reference to sexual and reproductive health and rights in a Human Rights Council.

UN Women enhanced gender equality capacity in HIV programmes across 27 countries, strengthening planning, budgeting and monitoring. Results included Liberia's National AIDS Commission establishing a gender desk; Rwanda adopting a gender-responsive operational plan; and Malawi developing a fully costed gender and HIV/AIDS implementation plan. UN Women also provided technical support to ensure that Global Fund proposals integrate gender equality and the rights of women living with HIV.

Linking the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women 2024 campaign with the theme "UNiTE to end violence against women and girls: Towards Beijing +30", the Joint Programme reaffirmed its collaboration with governments, business, civil society, communities and women's movements and networks for

Indicator progress on gender equality (RA 6)

- **50 countries** strengthened their gender expertise and capacity to further integrate **gender equality** into the national HIV response and meaningfully engaged women together with men.
- **In 44 countries**, the Joint Programme provided policy and advocacy support and contributed to **mobilizing partnerships** to implement **gender-responsive** HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services free of gender-based discrimination and violence.

protecting the rights and dignity of all women and girls, including women and girls living with, at risk of and affected by HIV. The Secretariat, together with various partners, increased efforts across eastern and southern Africa to improve social norms on gender equality and SRH through the engagement of religious and traditional leaders, as well as men and boys generally.

The ILO integrated gender equality into policies and programmes promoting inclusive social norms, empowering communities, and combating gender-based violence. Through joint work in numerous countries, the ILO, the Secretariat and partners have supported efforts to address systemic discrimination, create safer work environments, and ensure the inclusion of vulnerable groups.

The Secretariat also supported the International Community of Women Living with HIV to develop and launch its report [Confronting coercion: A global scan of coercive practices, mistreatment, and abuse](#) at the AIDS2024 conference. It documents experiences of SRH violations and violence from more than 60 countries among women living with HIV.

UNFPA's gender-based violence operational plan ("Flourish 2022–2025") is aimed at eliminating gender-based violence and emphasizes support for prevention and response approaches that are centred on the lived experience of women and girls including those living with or at risk of HIV. In line with that plan, UNFPA helped over 4.2 million people access gender-based violence services and helped 33 000 women benefit from humanitarian cash assistance. UNDP worked with 65 countries to promote gender equality and address gender-based violence in the context of HIV.

In line with its Gender Strategy 2024–2030, the World Bank stepped up its work to address gender-based violence risks and needs, including for women's health, education and social and economic empowerment through standalone projects and sector-specific projects in areas such as transport, education, social protection and forced displacement. International Development Association IDA20 resources (including US\$ 93 billion for the poorest countries over several years) are helping countries improve gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment, including in relation to SRH, gender-based violence and economic empowerment. Its US\$ 680 million Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project with UNFPA and WHO improved young women's access to quality reproductive, child and maternal health services, reaching over 2 million girls in nine countries. In addition, the health and gender support project in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, had provided integrated gender-based violence and SHR services to almost 2.5 million women and girls by December 2024.

Gender assessments supported by the Secretariat and UN Women in three countries in eastern Europe and central Asia summarized evidence on gender-related barriers in the HIV response and helped improve national HIV strategies or plans and Global Fund grants. For example, In Armenia, 40% of the 2022 gender assessment recommendations were implemented or included in the Global Fund Grant Cycle 7. In addition, gender assessments conducted in 12 countries with UN Women's support helped identify structural inequalities, legal gaps and service delivery challenges affecting women living with and affected by HIV. In Zimbabwe, a comprehensive study conducted with the National AIDS Council described evidence on drivers of high HIV incidence among adolescent girls and young women, which is helping shape national policy and interventions. UNDP worked with Sudan to formulate a gender assessment to help gender-based violence survivors access care; the recommendations were integrated into the Global Fund HIV funding request.

UNODC supported the development of a comprehensive package to strengthen the capacity of service providers and decision-makers in scaling up access to HIV and hepatitis services, as well as increasing awareness of the intersection between gender-based violence and HIV and the promotion of harm reduction for women who use drugs.

In 2024, UN Women enhanced the leadership and empowerment of women living with HIV across 36 countries through training in advocacy skills and expanding access to decision-making spaces, which benefitted over 35 000 women living with HIV. For example, the Network of Women with HIV in El Salvador gained skills in transformative leadership, advocacy, local community mobilization and health response, while women living with HIV in Senegal gained stronger skills to engage in socioeconomic development initiatives.

Strategic partnerships mobilized to prioritize gender-responsive HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services free of gender-based discrimination and violence.

The Joint Programme built partnerships with various stakeholders to promote and prioritize gender-responsive HIV services. It provided critical technical support to countries for their funding proposals to the Global Fund Grant Cycle 7 to further expand and improve gender-transformative HIV programmes.

UN Women supported survivor-centred services for women living with and affected by HIV. In Indonesia, it piloted 27 integrated HIV and violence response protocols, trained over 50 providers, led national dialogues, conducted a cost analysis and documented 72 cases to support advocacy to end violence against women living with HIV.

The Joint Programme continued to address barriers to HIV service uptake such as human rights violations, stigma, discrimination and gender-based violence. In sub-Saharan Africa, UNESCO drew on its longstanding experience in working with Ministries of Education to improve gender equality through initiatives on girl's education and quality CSE. This was done mainly through the "Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future" programme, which addresses barriers to girls' education, health and empowerment, including adolescent pregnancy, HIV and gender-based violence. This led to sustained commitment to and support for preventing and responding to school violence, including gender-based violence, through curriculum-based approaches and social and behaviour change and response components. In 2024, UNESCO also continued co-convening the Global Working Group to End School-Related Gender-Based Violence with the UN Girls' Education Initiative, expanding its membership to 70 organizations and 143 individuals who contributed to key advocacy events.

Collaboration between UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF and WHO foster integrated, holistic programming to reduce stigma and provide comprehensive care for survivors of gender-based violence, particularly women living with HIV. This included collaboration, led by UNFPA with the African Union and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, to enable region-specific strategies that address the unique cultural and socioeconomic barriers faced by women living with HIV.

UNFPA works with local feminist and male engagements groups, community-based organizations and key stakeholders in countries to design and implement gender-based violence programmes that challenge harmful social norms and support survivors, and to bolster sustainable, community-driven responses to gender-based violence. In total, it implements approximately 400 gender-based violence programmes in over 150 countries and territories worldwide. These programmes operate across the humanitarian, development and peace fields. They are aimed at ensuring that services are available in both development and conflict or post-conflict zones and that gender-

based violence and SRH services are stigma-free and responsive to the needs of women living with HIV.

In 2024, UNICEF, together with the University of Cape Town and the University of Oxford, conducted three studies on normative behaviours influencing SRH outcomes. The studies highlighted the impact of gender norms on the risks of coerced sex and gender-based violence and the importance of integrating social norms interventions to reduce violence and child marriages, while improving HIV testing and contraceptive use. Furthermore, UNICEF and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine broadly disseminated a new systematic review of best practices of gender-transformative HIV and SRH programme approaches for adolescents and young people, especially strategies that can be adapted and replicated at scale.

In October 2024, the Secretariat, in collaboration with UNFPA, UNESCO, UN Women, the International Organization for Migration and Save the Children, convened religious and traditional leaders from seven countries, as well as Buganda Minister for Sports in Uganda and youth representatives in South Africa, to address cultural practices that undermine health and gender equality. This resulted in a call for the elimination of HIV-related stigma and discrimination and of child marriage .

UN Women expanded community-led efforts to prevent HIV and violence against women by challenging unequal gender norms and linking people to HIV services. In South Africa, over 120 000 people were reached through “HeForShe” dialogues aimed at addressing violence against women and promoting HIV testing and support services. In Ethiopia, UN Women’s support to the “SASA!” initiative saw community rejection of violence rise from 50% to 73% and awareness of its link to HIV increase from 69% to 93% over three years.

The World Bank continued its focus on strengthening country-driven approaches with improved diagnostics, analysis and policy dialogues and by leveraging a new [Gender Data Portal](#), which compiles the latest sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics against over 1,000 indicators. Key indicators to monitor progress on gender equality are also compiled in the Country Gender Landscape Briefs, which are available for 192 countries.

In 2024, WHO released new normative and technical documents on engaging men, including, Men and HIV: Evidence-based approaches and interventions; Practical approaches and case models for reaching men and boys with integrated HIV services. Additionally, WHO supported Lesotho, South Africa and United Republic of Tanzania to adapt and implement the guidance. UNODC, UN Women, UNFPA and partners launched a [briefing paper on gender-based violence and women who use drugs](#) which highlights the discrimination and rights violations faced by women who use drugs face and includes policy recommendations for decision-makers.

In addition, the Secretariat, UN Women and Sonke Gender Justice hosted a male engagement event during the “MenEngage SRH” symposium in Nairobi, which brought together youth, civil society and government representatives to promote positive masculinity and men’s involvement in health and gender equality. Key outcomes included commitments from 10 countries to advance male engagement and the development of actionable plans, with ongoing partnerships—particularly with Sonke Gender Justice—producing roadmaps and practical tools in Malawi and Kenya. Examples of other collaborations include the “Kwakha Indvodza Dialogues” on gender norms and HIV prevention in Eswatini, supported by the Secretariat, and a partnership with the Rwanda Network of People Living with HIV to reduce violence and HIV

transmission among boys while mentoring men and boys to engage as allies for gender equality.

Through the “Investing in Adolescent Girls and Young Women’s Leadership and Voice in the HIV Response” programme, funded by the United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), UN Women built feminist leadership skills of adolescent girls and young women in Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe and paired them with established women leaders as mentors.

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