

Transition Monitoring: *Benchmarking sustainability of HIV response among key populations in the context of transition from the Global Fund support*

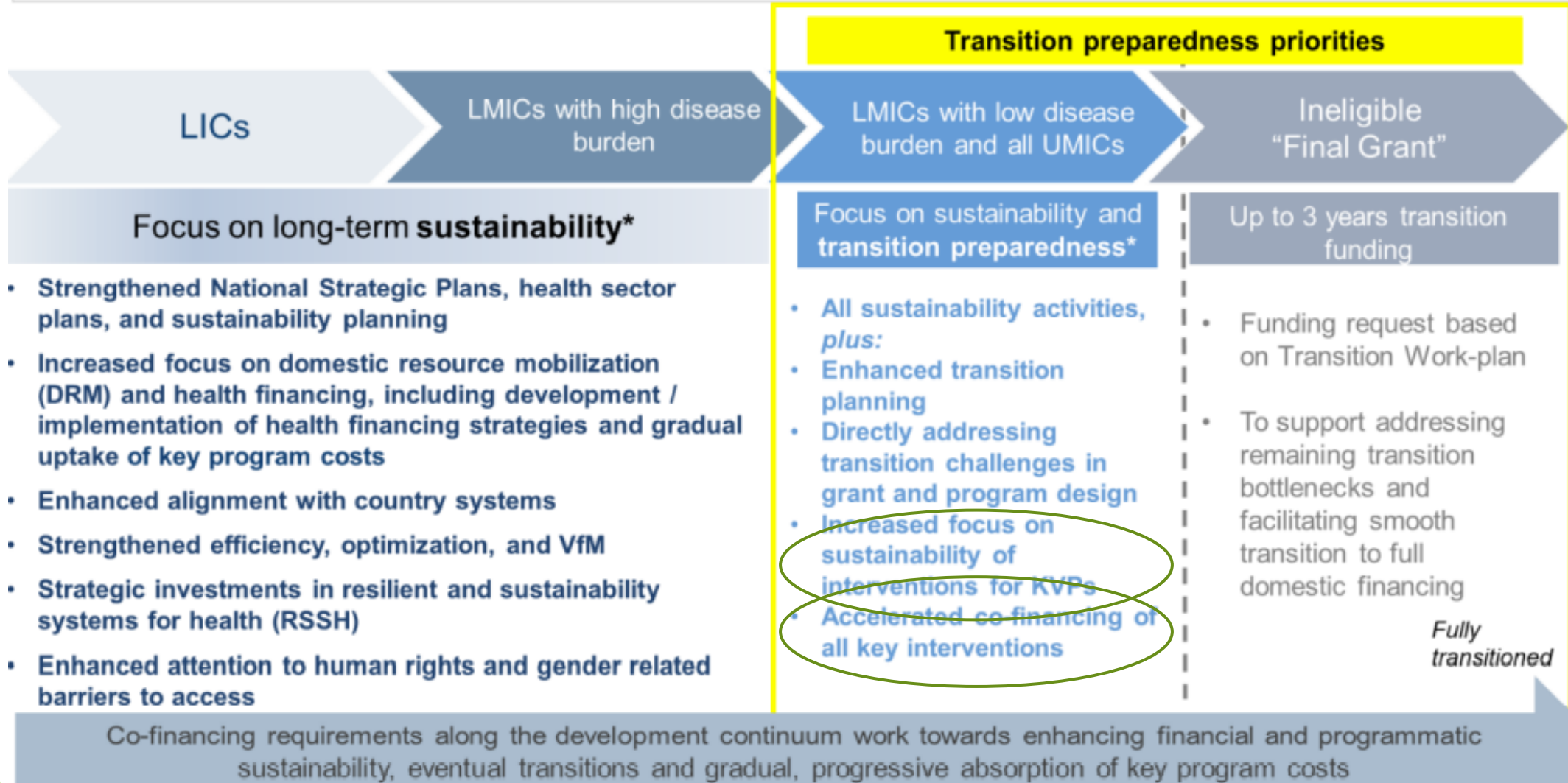
Background

- ▶ The assessment methodology and report were developed by EHRA the within the framework of the regional project called 'Sustainability of Services for Key Populations in Eastern Europe and Central Asia' which is implemented by the Alliance for Public Health (APH) in a consortium with the 100% Life (All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH), the Central Asian HIV Association and the Eurasian Key Populations Health Network with the financial support of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund).
- ▶ 2020: the Framework, Methodology and Tool were developed and piloted <https://eecaplatform.org/en/tmt/>
- ▶ 2021: the assessment (but still in the piloting mode) is being conducted in 9 EECA countries: Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan.
- ▶ Plan to repeat the assessment in 2023



The Global Fund Transition Framework

Framing the STC Policy in the Global Fund Portfolio and Development Continuum



*Please note: Thematic areas highlighted across the portfolio are considered priorities, but are not exhaustive; appropriate activities and focus areas will depend heavily on country and regional context

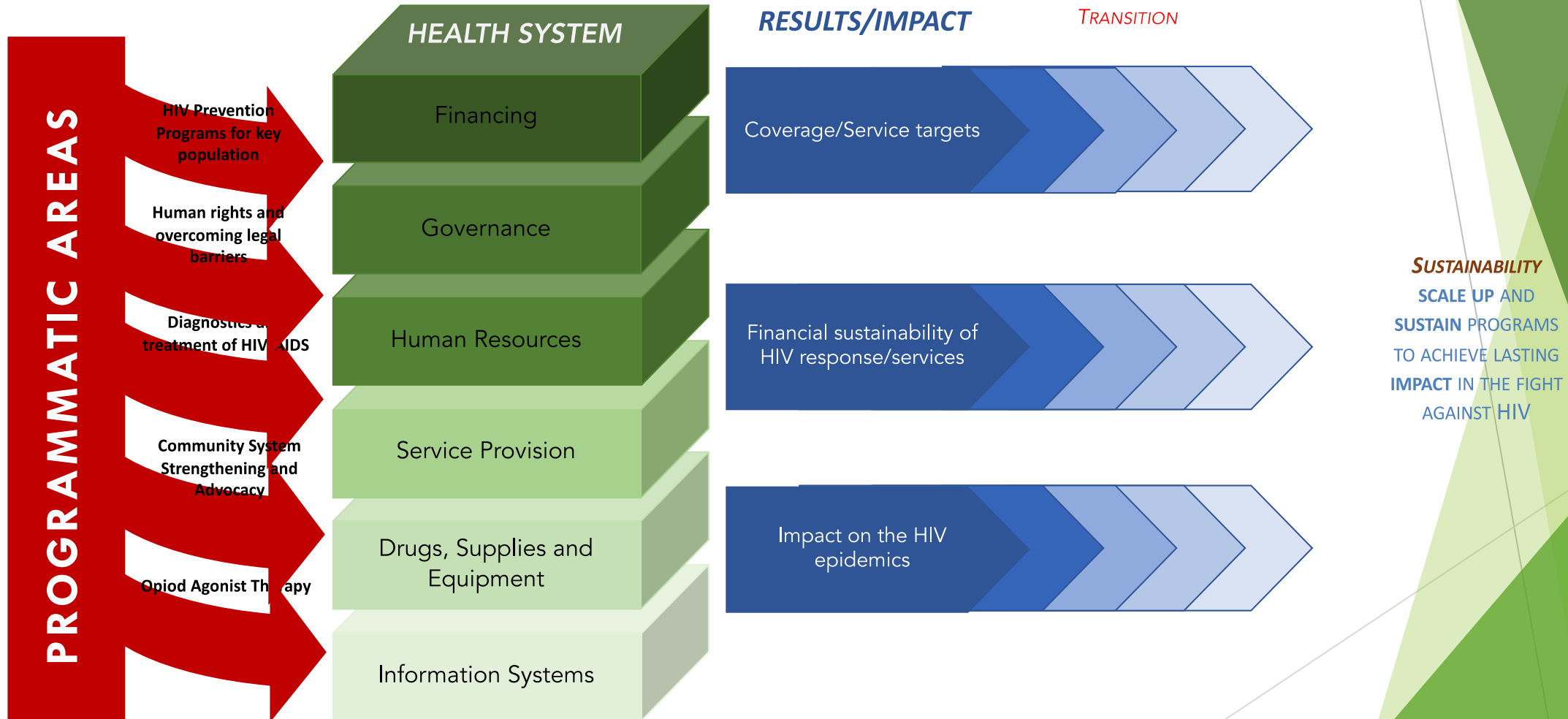
Description of the methodology: Conceptual Framework

- ▶ Despite the importance of the transition process, it is not well monitored - neither do countries have streamlined monitoring systems in place, nor are the current grant monitoring and programme tracking measures sufficient.
- ▶ The development of this assessment framework and methodology is aimed at enhancing the national capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs) and communities to monitor the transition process by following the extent to which the government's commitments are fulfilled for priority areas in the HIV response.

Description of the methodology: Conceptual Framework

1. Transition is a country-led process, and **transition planning should be reflected in a set of national documents**. Those documents contain **commitments – an action and a desired change** - which the national government has taken the responsibility to implement;
2. Key populations have vested interests in the successful transition of national HIV programmes; however, there are certain **programmatic areas** that best meet the needs of key populations.
3. To some extent, **a transition process should address the challenges which exist in all domains of the national healthcare system**, especially health financing, and should lead to the sustainability of the HIV response – a positive impact on the epidemic.
4. Sustainability could be assessed through the impact of HIV programmes. Based on the Global Fund definition, this model proposes to measure sustainability using the progress made in the following areas:
 - Improved coverage of services;
 - Financial sustainability – provision of replacement, and adequate level of, funding; and,
 - Impact on the epidemic as reflected in key epidemiological indicators.

Visualization of conceptual framework



Description of the methodology: Conceptual Framework

- ▶ This methodology looks at the performance of Government from 3 perspectives:
 1. To what extent have commitments relevant to different health system domains have been materialized?
 2. To what extent have the public commitments related to different programmatic areas relevant for key populations have been materialized?
 3. To what extent failure to fulfill the commitments, or successful fulfilment of commitments have made impact on the HIV epidemic from the perspective of key populations?

Methodology: Key stages

- ▶ Scoping: Identification of key national documents, which state public commitments and identify those commitments, actions and targets
- ▶ Prioritization:
 - ▶ Setting up the national reference group;
 - ▶ Prioritizing key commitments for monitoring and filling up the gaps.
- ▶ Development of commitment matrix
- ▶ Data collection and analysis
- ▶ Report writing

Expected results

- ▶ Better informed national planning process
- ▶ Key population groups more engaged in monitoring and keeping public sector accountable within HIV response
- ▶ Regional perspective on transition and sustainability

Limitations

- Countries do not have a predefined set of processes/documents which frame the transition process and contain relevant commitments.
- Some of the plans (strategic or transition plans) are developed but not approved by the Government, that raises questions as to the extent to which those documents are perceived by the government as guiding their decision-making process;
- It is not technically feasible to monitor all commitments; therefore, a set of commitments should be selected. This makes each assessment arbitrary, and a choice of commitments to monitor depends on the national reviewer and a team of national informants who select the commitments that are the most important/informative; and,
- Data quality: data is often of a questionable quality and exiting mechanisms within Global Fund programmes do not monitor full-scale execution of the transition process.