



Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CE SI): Long term capacity strengthening of HIV key population networks and organizations

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Introduction



GNP+ is a **global network led by and for people living with HIV**, dedicated to advocating for the rights and well-being of all individuals living with or affected by HIV.

Our commitment is to ensure that every person living with HIV, especially those who are underserved, marginalized, or excluded from critical services, **has a voice in decisions that impact their lives.**

We work with a diverse range of local, national, and regional networks and organisations of people living with HIV to reach individuals and communities. Some organise as youth or women's groups, others as journalists or artists. Some focus more on delivering services directly and others focus more on advocating for policy changes.

Together we are part of a powerful global movement defending and promoting the rights of people living with HIV and key and vulnerable populations.

Using the power of community-led research and evidence-based advocacy, we improve outcomes for people living with HIV. We strengthen the global HIV response by amplifying the perspectives, expertise, and information from diverse communities of people living with HIV.

We work with national and regional networks to hold governments and global leaders accountable to their commitments and to improve access to quality of HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support services.



Our Vision – Our Mission



Our Vision

A world where every person living with HIV enjoys their right to a healthy and dignified life, free from stigma and discrimination

Our Mission

We provide global leadership and advocate for improvements to the quality of life for all people living with HIV





- We actively foster the participation and leadership of people living with HIV throughout the HIV response
- We are community-led and guided by the rights and realities of people living with HIV
- We are accountable to the communities of people living with HIV that we serve and are transparent in how we spend money and make decisions
- We are inclusive, and we embrace and defend diversity
- We recognize that the issues that affect us as people living with HIV often intersect with other aspects of our identities and our differing access to power and resources





The primary goal is to enhance the ability of national PLHIV (People Living with HIV) and key population (KP) networks and organizations* to effectively engage in Global Fund processes at the country level by:

- Generating and utilizing data to inform advocacy and decision-making;
- Strengthening their capacity to mobilize, and hold representatives and decision-makers accountable;
- Accessing timely and relevant information related to the Global Fund; and
- Driving program quality through the adoption of global guidelines and the sharing of best practices.

*representing (a) gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men; (b) people living with HIV; (c) people who use drugs; (d) sex workers; (e) transgender people; and (f) young PLHIV and young KPs



Priority Countries - Partners



MOLDOVA

Positive Initiative
Focusing on Young People

GHANA

National Association of
persons living with HIV
(NAP+ Ghana)
Focusing on MSM

TANZANIA

Network of young people
living with HIV (NYP+)
Focusing on Young people
living with HIV



GNP+ will offer technical guidance, mentorship, and support to country-level partners in the following key areas:

Global Fund Orientation

Ensure that diverse PLHIV (people living with HIV) and key populations (KP) communities are well-informed about the Global Fund, including its mandate, strategy, working model, grant life cycle, and relevant country-level processes, such as National Strategic Plans (NSPs) and Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs).

Situational Analysis and Community Priorities

Help PLHIV and KP communities understand the national response to HIV, supporting them in defining their priorities related to prevention, treatment, gender, equity, human rights, key populations, and community systems.

Country Engagement Plans

Assist communities most impacted by HIV in reviewing relevant data, including the "Annex of Funding Priorities of Civil Society and Communities."

Facilitate consultations with CRG Advisors and Global Fund country teams, and guide them in developing and implementing country-level community engagement plans, which may include embedded technical assistance budgets.



Program Review and Design

Support communities in engaging with Global Fund funding and reprogramming processes, National Strategic Plans, grant reviews, and program development, emphasizing access to quality services and addressing gender, equity, human rights, and community system needs.

Oversight and Monitoring

Enable communities to engage regularly with CCM representatives to monitor and oversee the implementation of national strategies, Global Fund grants, and reprogramming efforts. Support relationship-building between communities and allied stakeholders, including civil society and technical partners.

Learning and Knowledge Management

Ensure that PLHIV and KP communities stay informed on Global Fund guidelines and promote peer-to-peer knowledge exchange through meetings, platforms, and forums.

Contribute to a cross-component Community Engagement (CE) and Strategic Initiative (SI) learning agenda, using the Community Engagement Toolbox and sharing relevant resources on Global Fund topics.

Technical Assistance

Systematically assist communities in identifying and accessing technical assistance opportunities. Provide ongoing guidance, support, and quality assurance for technical assistance embedded in country engagement plans.



Partners Approach



Building the capacity of communities living with HIV, particularly those from key and vulnerable populations, to actively engage in both Global Fund and national decision-making processes within their respective countries.

Developing an advocacy brief by regularly convening community members in "Community Forums." These forums will allow participants to share their needs and priorities, ultimately resulting in the creation of an advocacy priority brief to be used in all relevant national and Global Fund decision-making platforms.

Monitoring the implementation of Global Fund grants during the latter half of the project. Country partners will engage with local communities to assess whether Global Fund interventions are effectively benefiting them and to identify any challenges in implementation.

Participating in national and Global Fund decision-making processes, which may involve roles such as serving on Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs), attending regular CCM meetings, joining technical working groups, or supporting CCM representatives.

While the specific details will vary by country, all partners will work to elevate the voices of people living with HIV in national dialogues. Each partner will also focus on a particular community: men who have sex with men in Ghana, and young people living with HIV in Moldova and Tanzania, as these groups are underrepresented in decision-making processes in their respective countries.



Anticipated Outcomes



Increased participation of communities of people living with HIV in Ghana, Moldova and Tanzania in national policy and decision-making forums and in the governance and stewardship of the HIV response in their countries.

Broader representation and meaningful engagement of diverse communities of people living with HIV in national policy and decision-making spaces, such as Country Coordination Mechanisms

Communities and networks of people living with HIV are working together to identify and agree on collective advocacy priorities through structured Community Forums.

Collective priorities of people living with HIV are clearly articulated in advocacy briefs, and are included in national strategies, funding requests and plans.

Networks of people living with HIV are monitoring the implementation of Global Fund grants and national HIV commitments and using the evidence they gather to push for national plans and programmes to better address the needs of their communities.

Networks are stronger and better able to meaningfully engage in decision-making processes.



Opportunities for Engagement & Collaboration



Communities beyond immediate partners can engage/benefit by:

Engagement with Broader Civil Society and Technical Partners

Communities beyond the immediate HIV partners, including broader civil society organizations (CSOs), human rights advocates, and other health networks, can be invited to collaborate in monitoring and advocacy efforts.

Collaborative Learning and Knowledge Sharing

The “Community Engagement Toolbox” and other learning resources can be shared with non-traditional partners, such as educational institutions, journalists, and media organizations. These groups can help spread knowledge, combat misinformation, and raise awareness about HIV-related issues in different forums, both digital and in-person.

Broader Youth and Gender-Focused Initiatives

Collaborations can be extended to youth organizations and gender equality movements.

For instance, in Moldova, where young people living with HIV are the focus, youth networks can be engaged to co-create platforms that empower their voices in decision-making processes.

Regional and Global Networks

Networks beyond the immediate national scope, such as regional advocacy groups or international human rights coalitions, could benefit from engagement.

These networks can amplify local advocacy efforts by bringing them to global platforms, offering broader visibility and support for national initiatives.

By leveraging these broader collaborations, the initiative can ensure that the voices and needs of people living with HIV are heard more widely and that more sectors of society contribute to creating inclusive and sustainable solutions.



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