

ARE HIV COMMUNITIES ONBOARD? AN INVESTIGATION OF HIV FINANCING IN INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES

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¹Full-Length Sequencing Of HIV Proviruses In HIV-HBV Co-Infected Individuals From Thailand

Background:

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) is the Principal Recipient of the Sustainable HIV Financing in Transition (SHIFT) program. This program is a Global Fund-supported two-year regional advocacy program covering Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand. SHIFT aims to enable and empower non-government organisations (NGOs) to advocate for sustainable HIV financing, especially domestic financing, to address recent declines of international funding in HIV.

Methods:

Research was conducted to develop an evaluation system for the program and to contribute to the growing discussion around HIV financing, transitioning and sustainability. Literature reviews, interviews and focus groups were conducted from July to August 2017. A total of 57 individuals were interviewed. These people came from SHIFT partner organisations, health departments, key population representatives and other NGOs.

Results:

The research developed an evaluation framework for SHIFT, which defined 23 indicators for measuring program outcomes and impact and collected baseline values. Key findings include difficulties in accessing funds due to stringent eligibility criteria; information gaps including up-to-date incidence and prevalence data for key populations and budget/expenditure data on domestic HIV funding; inefficient targeting of funds, for example a relatively small proportion of total national expenditure were invested to prevent HIV among key populations, even though most new infections and/or prevalence rates were much higher among key populations than the general population. budget/expenditure data on domestic HIV funding

Conclusions:

The evaluation framework represents the first attempt to develop a coherent evaluation methodology for SHIFT and future projects involving HIV financing, transitioning and sustainability for NGOs. The research findings suggest that addressing NGO funding mechanisms, gaps in HIV surveillance and financing data and inefficient targeting of funds should be key advocacy areas in the four program countries and championed by NGOs and key population networks.