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LSE

How do National Strategic Plans on HIV/AIDS In Southern and Eastern Africa Integrate the Response to Gender and Sexual Violence?

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Background

“Violence and the threat of violence can hamper women’s ability to adequately protect themselves from HIV infection and/or assert healthy sexual decision making. In addition, women living with HIV are more likely to experience violence due to their HIV status” UNAIDS 2010 p. 134

NSPs are critical policy documents for ensuring an effective response to gender-based and sexual violence

UNAIDS *Getting to Zero* 2011-2015:

- **Zero tolerance for gender-based violence**
- **HIV-specific needs of women and girls are addressed in at least half of all national HIV responses**



Framework

Framework for women, girls, and gender equality in National Strategic Plans for HIV and AIDS in southern and eastern Africa

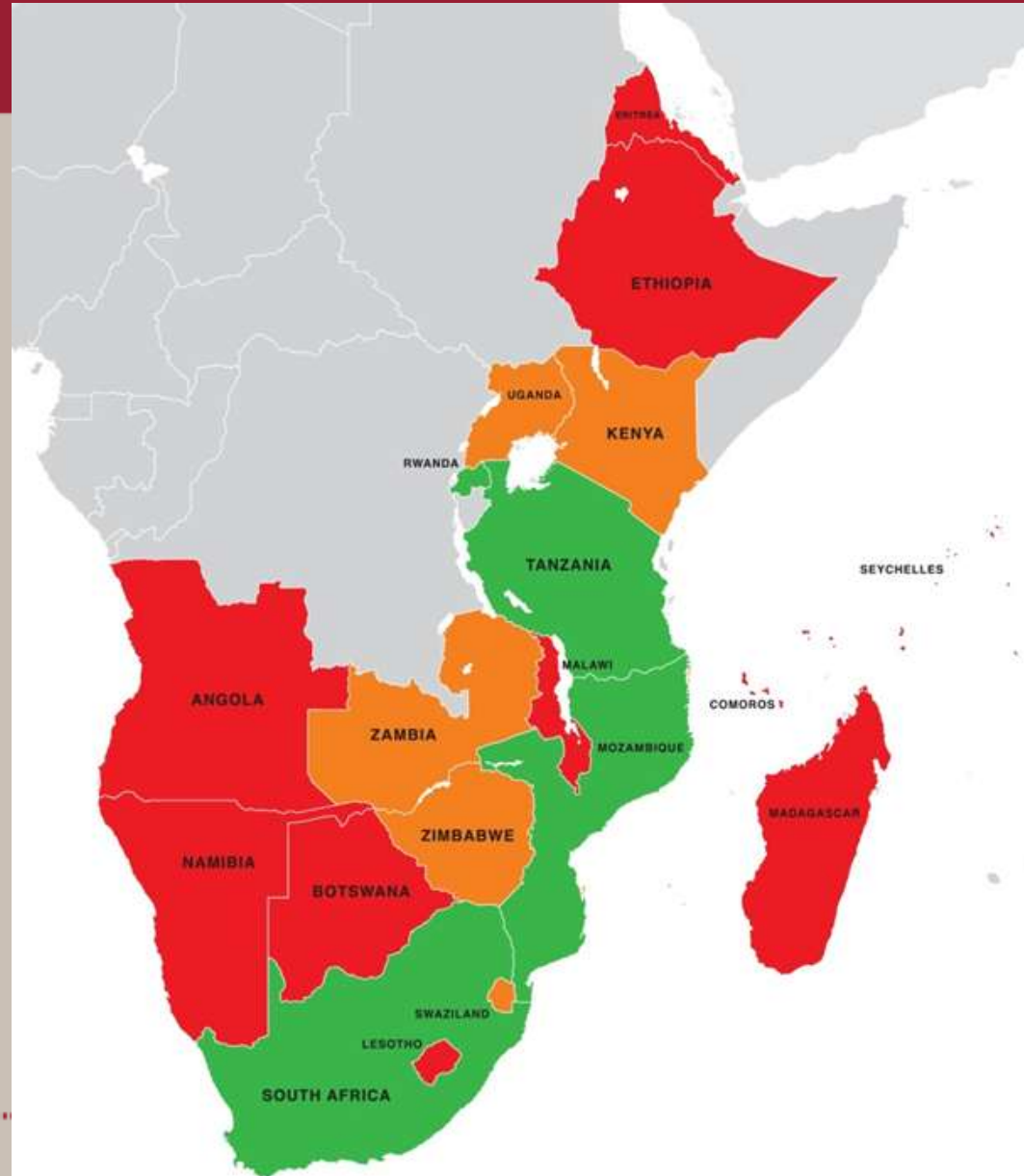
1. **Enabling environment**
2. **Meaningful involvement and leadership by women living with HIV**
3. **Utilising a sexual and reproductive health and rights approach**
4. **Preventing HIV transmission**
5. **Eliminating gender-based violence**
6. **Increasing access and uptake of ART**
7. **Reducing the unpaid burden of care**
8. **Accountability**
9. **Stakeholders**



Framework for **Women, Girls, and Gender Equality** in National Strategic Plans on HIV and AIDS in Southern and Eastern Africa

From Talk to Action

Full report:
www.heard.org.za/gender



Limitations

- **No assessment of whether implemented**
- **No assessment of impact on women and girl's lives**
- **Concerned about the broad policy environment and spaces of support (or not) that exist**

Eliminating gender-based violence and discrimination

***Framework* has 4 components in this section:**

- 1. Guiding principles**
- 2. Primary prevention interventions**
- 3. Secondary prevention interventions**
- 4. Tertiary prevention interventions**

Guiding principles

Guiding principles	Number of countries
Recognise GBV as critical to HIV as a cause and consequence	8/20
Broad conceptualisation of GBV	4/20

Primary prevention interventions

Primary prevention	
Comprehensive sexuality education (e.g. Stepping Stones)	3/20
Women's economic empowerment to reduce GBV (e.g. IMAGE)	3/20
Interventions to halt intimate partner violence	3/20
Interventions to halt and address violence against sex workers	1/20
Interventions to halt and address violence against lesbian, bisexual and transgender women	0/20
Interventions working with men and boys (e.g. One Man Can)	3/20
Any primary prevention intervention	6/20
3 or more primary prevention interventions	1/20

Secondary prevention interventions

Secondary prevention	
Interventions to build capacity of healthcare workers and other service providers to respond to GBV	5/20
Interventions to alleviate stigma and discrimination by service providers	3/20
Comprehensive post-rape protocols for HIV prevention	
Post-exposure prophylaxis	13/20
Psycho-social support	4/20
Emergency contraception	4/20
Termination of pregnancy care and services	1/20
Any secondary prevention intervention	16/20
Any secondary prevention intervention (excluding PEP)	8/16

Tertiary prevention interventions

Tertiary prevention	
Interventions to create supportive legal and policy frameworks on GBV	7/20
Interventions to support survivors of violence access to justice	7/20
Legal responses to cultural and traditional practices harmful to women	4/20
Decriminalisation of sex work	1/20
Any tertiary prevention intervention	9/20

What does this tell us?

Gender and sexual violence is poorly integrated into NSPs – where there is integration focuses on responses to violence, rather than tackling underlying causes

Impact of ARV activism is visible – PEP – significant gains

Yet generally weak policy context for tackling and responding to gender-based and sexual violence



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