



2016/2017 Annual Report





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Letter from the Chair



Dear Sisters,

We have successfully managed to come to the end of another financial year and I am honored and excited to share with you all ICW's programmatic experiences and lessons for the financial year 2016/17.

Our work is premised on the back drop of ambitious Global goals and targets embodied in the principle of 'Leaving no one behind' and we have jointly come together to do our bit in making our experiences and those of the women and girls living with HIV in all our diversity remain on the agenda of the HIV and Health responses from global to grassroots level. **Nothing for us without us!**

This year began the celebration to mark our 25 years anniversary. As a network, we are proud of our growth and experiences over the years; and remain committed towards ensuring women and girls living with HIV wherever they are enjoy a healthy quality life in which our rights are respected including our reproductive health right.

We at the International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW) understand our critical position for ensuring all women and girls in all our diversity and particularly those of us living with HIV are at the center of important decision making and implementation and monitoring processes towards the globally shared vision of an end to AIDS. We know that to achieve this we have to remain committed towards our call for gender equality, equity and ensure our communities remain supportive environments in which women and girls living with HIV can thrive and be productive.

On behalf of the International Steering Committee (ISC) of ICW, I take this opportunity to applaud all the women from across the world who have worked tirelessly to show support to a fellow sister and engaged with policy makers and implementers to promote our lived experiences and strategic expertise to address HIV and development programs with direct implication to the lives of women living with HIV, their children, families and communities.





I am happy to report that ICW is now fully registered in Kenya as NGO and is more than ever committed to realizing the vision and mission of the organization while strengthening our role in achievement of Global goals.

Today is a new day for ICW and our exciting journey forward into 2018. As we start the implementation of our new strategic plan 2018-2021 the International Community of Women Living with HIV heralds in a New Year bringing with it renewed vitality and energy for the tasks ahead.

The ISC is fully committed to supporting the secretariat in the quest to achieving what is deemed a very ambitious goals globally,we believe in our ability to contribute to a world where all women and girls living with HIV live healthy and quality lives contributing to the socio economic achievements of their country. **That is the world Women want!**

We extend our appreciation to all our partners and members who have continued to support our growth and appreciate the strength of our diversity to push forward our agenda together in unity and solidarity!

Together we are ICW!

Marama Pala
ICW Chairperson



Letter from the Global Director



2016 was not business as usual. We have seen some challenging developments across the Global response this year, especially within the community-based sector. ICW has experienced frustrating delays waiting for funding confirmation and some expected grants were reprioritized away from HIV as we grappled with the uncertainty that surrounds the future of HIV funding which has deeply impacted on all peer based networks.

With intense focus on resource mobilization and retaining the current income needed, extraordinary demands were placed on the ICW leadership to guide the organization's activities while still conserving our resources for the future.

Nevertheless, this year ICW still managed an impressive array of activities, delivered some incredible advocacy and carried the voices of women and girls from all our ten regions to the most important policy spaces to ensure that we are not just included in dialogue but taken seriously as a network of women and girls that know what is needed to reach important global goals and for us to live healthy quality lives. ['Keeping us on the agenda'](#)

The momentum with which the global office functions continues to astound me, with great flexibility, energy, passion and courage the team have been fully responsive to policy developments, key advocacy campaigns, partner trends, new and emerging issues for women and girls and with great gusto we have reflected internally and created a range of systems that continue to strengthen the global office and our partner regional networks to position us well for whatever the future holds.

This report highlights our achievements that were possible with incredible collaboration with committed partners, our International steering committee, our regional and country network partners and the powerful energized young women that take this organization forward.

Our Annual Report highlights the value and results of investing in peer led community responses over the year. We report the results and reach of our programs, I urge you to remember these programs and activities are the direct results of the stories and experiences behind the women and girls we work with, this report also highlights how we represent value for money.

This year marks our 25th Anniversary, I am incredibly proud to be a part of an organization that has faced many internal and external challenges yet still speaks loudly and clearly on the most important matters in our lives. As we mark 25 years we have looked back at the women who built

the strong pillars of ICW that have sustained us for so long and have played such an important role in the HIV response. These pillars have supported a movement that is so powerful, that continues to grow despite the external pressures and gives us decades of collective power and energy to draw from.

In 2014 ICW reopened its office in Nairobi, I am pleased to report that we have registered been fully registered as an International NGO, secured a small and bright office, have very strong operational systems in place and are most excitedly reviewing a very ambitious strategic plan that has come to an end.

All of this gives me and the many women that are ICW hope and anticipation for the future. It demonstrates our collective desire to continue to grow together and speak one voice on all the issues that remain true to women and girls globally; those issues will always collectively hold us together.

As we move into 2018 with our new strategy, I would like to thank the people and organizations that have walked beside us through this great period of change and uncertainty, your partnership and support has helped bring the voices of women and girls living with HIV to many decision making levels thereby impacting on our lives every day.

I look to 2018 with anticipation of the great things that we are poised to do and achieve; I know together we will achieve them in sisterhood!

Together we are ICW!



Rebecca Matheson
Global Director

Overview of ICW

The International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW) is the only grassroots global network run by and for women living with HIV. The ICW network was established in 1992 by women living with HIV in response to the consistent silencing and marginalizing of the concerns of women living with HIV in decision-making platforms. Since its inception, the network has been at the forefront of ensuring that women living with HIV are at the center of the HIV response including policy and program design, planning, implementation and evaluation.

In 2016 ICW networks around the world are collectively celebrating 25 years of sisterhood and struggle for social justice and the human rights of women living with HIV. Over the past 25 years ICW has expanded our reach and influence and established the network as an effective organization that advocates for the rights and well-being of women living with HIV at global, regional and country levels.

ICW is the voice and representation of self-identifying women living with HIV, in all our diversity. We currently work in 120 countries and through 10 regional networks: ICW Asia Pacific, ICW Caribbean, ICW Central Africa, ICW Eastern Africa, ICW Europe and Central Asia, ICW Latina in Latin America ICW MENA ROSA (MENA), ICW North America, ICW Southern Africa, ICW West Africa, the Chapter of Young Women and Girls (CYWAG) and our newly launched Indigenous Network of Women Living with HIV.

In all of our work, it is the grassroots voices, experiences of women living with HIV, our daily struggles and lived realities that inform and shape the ICW agenda. The International Community of Women Living with HIV is governed by the ICW International Steering Committee (ISC) which is comprised of women living with HIV elected or appointed by our regional networks. In this way we ensure that our efforts at the global level are led entirely by women living with HIV and the networks they represent. The principles of **'Nothing about us without us'** is central to our organizational ethos and practice.

The success and endurance of ICW around the world despite significant changes within the HIV response and funding spheres demonstrates both the power of women to effect the changes they want to see in the world and the grit and determination of this grassroots network to survive, grow and flourish.

**United, We are ICW!
Nothing for us,
Without Us!**

Our Vision and Mission

International Community of Women Living with HIV is the only global network for and by women living with HIV.

VISION

We envision a world where all women and girls living with HIV live free of gender oppression, realizing and claiming our full rights inclusive of sexual, reproductive, legal, social, economic and health rights.

MISSION

We exist to lead efforts towards securing and improving the quality of life for women living with HIV. We do this by mobilizing, organizing, and advocating, mentoring and raising consciousness on issues that directly impact on our lives.

ICW – Global Impact & Influence

This financial year 2016/17 was a pivotal year for the ICW Global Network and our partner regional networks. Collectively and collaboratively we have strengthened the structure, communications and impact of the entire ICW network from global visibility and advocacy impact to regional network strengthening and support for country level efforts. This has been a period of growth and learning and we are happy to share this report which highlights our activism, advocacy, sisterhood and global impact.

The ICW Global Office has emerged as a connector, convener and collaborator well-positioned to lead a synergized and coordinated global network. This period marked the start of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of ICW by women living with HIV at the 1992 International AIDS Conference in Durban, South Africa. Reaching 25 years of service and advocacy by and for women living with HIV is a critical milestone for what was originally a predominantly volunteer-led grassroots network of women living with HIV focused on mobilizing women globally. We have come a long way!

This reporting period also saw the ICW network, in collaboration with our regional networks and with the leadership of the International Steering Committee, reach key milestones in our work including important benchmarks set in our 2014-2016 Strategic Plan: 1) To build a vibrant movement of powerful and informed women living with HIV who realize and claim their right at a personal and societal level, and 2) to define and advance the agenda of women living with HIV and undertake strategic advocacy efforts to ensure the realization of our human rights.

ICW Global Network has utilized our progressively strengthened internal structures and systems to the implement our dynamic strategic plan, strengthening the whole of network, strengthening our advocacy efforts, achieving high visibility and impact within global advocacy spaces and to engage and support the advocacy of women living with HIV within country mechanisms and regional and global structures.

ICW is pleased and proud to highlight some of our collective achievements this year.



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Movement Building

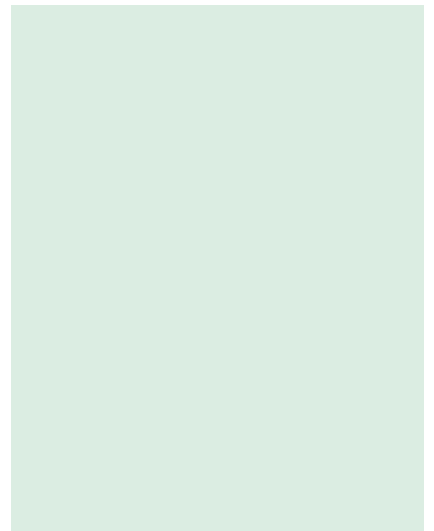
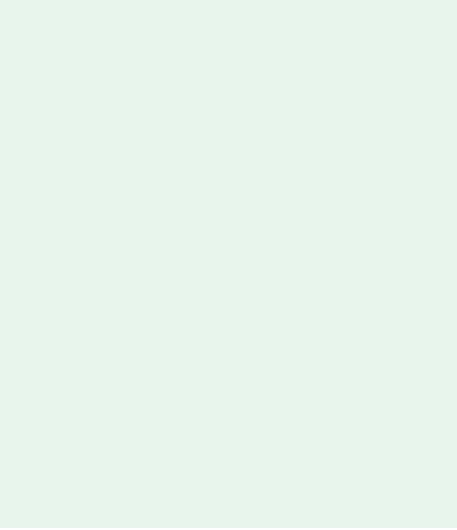
Making Our Voices Heard

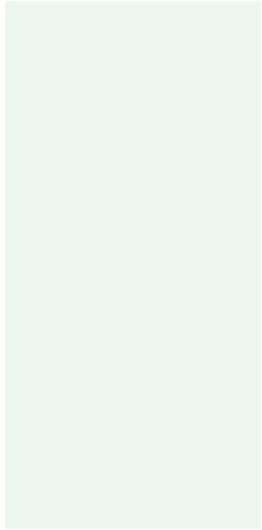
ICW was highly active in conferences like AIDS 2016, CROI2017 and IAS2017 conference where our members made contribution to panels, satellite sessions, had vibrant booths that provided a platform for running themed campaigns and signing in more members as well as enhancing our online presence. ICW also participated in the 61st Commission of the Status of Women (CSW) in March 2017 in which 10 members from the regions represented ICW and were instrumental in raising visibility to issues that are specific to women and girls living with HIV.

ICW members were also supported to engage in Global Fund replenishment campaigns, participated in the various decision making platforms including;- the Differentiated care technical group, IATT technical working groups, the start free technical working group, the stigma index small working group, WHO HIV and TB STAC Committee meetings among others. ICW membership were also recruited to represent women and girls in various decision making platforms including: at the International Steering Committee (ISC) of the Coalition of Children affected by AIDS (CCABA), and The Global Coalition of Women and AIDS (GCWA). These representative platforms give ICW the ability to influence policy and program planning, monitoring and review to impact the quality of services and interventions for HIV and health that are responsive to the needs of women and girls but also respect our collective human rights including the rights to our sexual and reproductive health.

Growing the Network

ICW has increased our individual membership through a series of innovative and engaging movement building activities at the country and regional level. Our network continues to grow both in size and geographic reach and in visibility and impact. Currently ICW has a membership of over 10,000 members globally with an average of at least 6000 views on our website per week. This information has particularly been useful for strengthening our internal and external communication. We have gained new partnerships and strengthened existing ones, particularly, we have strengthened our collaborations with key population groups in particular women who do sex work through the Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP)





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and International Network of People who use Drugs (INPUD) to connect with women who use drugs. Additionally ICW has strengthened our partnerships with Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), Women for Global Fund (W4GF) and the Communities Delegation to the Global Fund who we have engaged in joint activities throughout the year

Developing Emerging Regional Networks

ICW Caribbean, Eurasian Women's Network on AIDS, ICW Asia Pacific, ICW North America, Chapter for Young Women, Adolescents and Girls (CYWAG) and MENA Rosa have been strengthened. ICW emerging networks are on course to finalize processes for legal registration of the network in the countries in which they operate. Two of the six regions ICW North America and ICW Caribbean have been duly registered in their countries of operation providing opportunities for engagement within country and regional operations. This means they can now easily compete and secure regional and country specific grants, be able to implement programmatic activities and be formally involved by other partners and stakeholders in health.

Feminist Movement Building

ICW worked in partnership with regions to develop and implement a series of different consciousness raising activities to engage ICW membership and to build collective consciousness about HIV, gender and systemic oppression. ICW has developed a unique set of feminist leadership and movement building workshops and mentoring program. ICW was privileged in joint action in the regions in which two Schools of Feminism Program were hosted in Bangkok with ICW Asia Pacific and ICW Caribbean where three Feminist Movement Building and Advocacy Planning Workshops in Antigua and Barbuda, Guyana and Barbados took place.

Advocacy Workshops

Using a mix of online dynamic virtual workshops and tweetathons for members to engage with other ICW members. Issues covered included: PrEP for Women; AIDS Conference Abstracts and Scholarships; Mental Health and HIV – Self-Care and Self-Love; HIV Criminalization; Navigating the Global Fund; Women Living with HIV Who Use Drugs; the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); HIV Level Meeting on HIV; Civil Society Hearing Review; HIV Research and Development; and Preparing for AIDS 2016 Conference. These sessions provide an opportunity to educate members on a wide range of issues that are useful for effective engagement with stakeholders in health in rights based advocacy at country and grassroots level.

Visibility and Membership Engagement

Social Media

ICW has stepped up our social media and online presence across multiple platforms including our website, Facebook, Twitter, E-news and WhatsApp. Our intensified focus on strengthening our communication activities and opportunities has resulted in timely and frequent sharing of our news and information relating to and impacting women and girls particularly women living with HIV. Press statements on key days like International Women's Day, World TB Day, Zero discrimination day, International Maternal Health Day, World Breastfeeding Week 2016, International Youth Day 2016, International Day of Older Persons, International Human Rights Day 2016, 16 Days of Activism and International AIDS Candlelight Memorial among others. ICW has reclaimed its legacy as the go-to organization on the issues impacting the lives of women living with HIV.

ICW Campaigns

IAM ICW: ICW continued our 'I AM ICW' campaign and member drive engaging and average of 2500 likes per week on Facebook, over 2000 likes, retweets, tags and notifications twitter, and an average of 22,425 unique hits on our website per month. IAM ICW campaign is also the core of the planning for the 25th Anniversary Celebrations, this included liaising with previous founders and long term members to begin a story sharing process which will be the roots of the ICW HERstory.

Love Positive Women (LPW): Global participation in LPW reached a new high increasing to over 32,000 individuals in 107 different activities by over 70 organizations and networks. These activities included support groups; public art performances; quilting; baking; making/buying dinner for others; self-care time; LPW lunches; launch of young women's media team for AIDS 2016; memorials; installation art; selfies; team building; family and/or community arts and crafts; movie screenings; burlesque performances; LPW card making; letter writing; workshops; public forums and discussions; and LPW films in over 40 different countries.



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ICW Advocacy That Impacts Women and Girls!

In the reporting period ICW has collectively held over 30 advocacy and capacity building trainings and workshops on feminist consciousness raising, advocacy skill development and advocacy strategy development and implementation on themes and issue areas including but not limited to ending forced and coerced sterilization, EMTCT Validation, Sustainable Development Goals, Research Literacy, SRHR, PMTCT Treatment Literacy, and the Global Fund.

We have positioned and supported women living with HIV from our member networks in key global advocacy spaces within the HIV response, including Global Fund, WHO Global Validation Committee, UNAIDS Start Free processes; WHO Guideline Review Processes, and the HLM Civil Society consultations and High Level Meeting on AIDS 2016. ICW advocates have engaged in more than 100 global, regional and national level decision-making spaces. Additionally, we have increased our capacity to deliver effective advocacy efforts including produced high quality research, and analysis that has positioned ICW as a research resource. The development of strong communications and advocacy platforms to better represent the advocacy agenda of ICW and the needs of women living with HIV and the development of stronger human rights programming including supporting human rights litigation and developing innovative programming in our three priority areas.

As a result our networks and member advocates have been achieving great influence at the local regional and global levels. Our increased visibility and consistent and high quality advocacy messaging and research means we have seen an increase in request for speakers, reviews, statements and our positioning on specific topics. ICW has been commissioned to speak in high level Global meetings including the World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines development processes and meetings, UNAIDS guidelines implementation progress meetings including the Global elimination of Mother To child Transmission meeting organized by WHO and UNICEF in September 2016 at Victoria Falls where 10 ICW women from the Africa Global Plan regions attended; ICW members are part of the Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN), a speakers bureau that works to raise issues of people affected by Malaria, HIV and TB in order to fundraise for Global fund among others.

Additionally, we have been able to build stronger partnerships and alliances. The WHO reached out to ICW to partner on research around new HIV prevention technologies PrEP and HIV Self testing whose data was useful in preparing implementation guidelines for use in country. ICW has also developed strategic partnerships with a number of key organizations. ICW entered into strategic partnerships with the following key organizations: HIV Justice Network, Global Coalition of Women and AIDS (GCWA), GNP+, UNAIDS, ATHENA, Women's Network of Reproductive

Rights (WGNRR), Canadian HIV Legal Network, HIV Young Leaders Fund, INPUD, UNAIDS, Global Fund, World Health Organization, IATT, AVAC, IAVI, Global HIV Vaccine Initiative, International AIDS Society, UN Women, USAID, UNITAID, UNFPA, Women for Global Fund (W4GF), Visual AIDS and Women's Major Group among others for joint initiatives geared towards addressing the needs of women and girls living with HIV.

Examples of our advocacy successes include:

a) Sexual and Reproduction Health (SRHR)

ICW networks are developing and implementing powerful and effective human rights work to address prioritized areas of advocacy focus: SRHR- Ending Forced and Coerced Sterilization; SRHR- Maternal Health and Ending Criminalization of HIV status and key populations. With a collective focus on these key areas ICW has been able to strengthen our impact to create a more enabling environment for women and girls living with HIV to thrive and live productive lives. ICW has overtime emerged as a critical leader on identifying and documenting human rights violations experienced by women living with HIV and our efforts in these two areas continue that work. These documentations have provided guidance for highlighting these issues in different platforms among them the Global Review of the Stigma Index process being spear headed by USAID and expected to be implemented by all the countries that receive USG grants. ICW is one of the main partners in the small technical working group tasked with the review role and representing Women and girls living with HIV.

Additionally ICW has taken an intersectional approach to both of these issues and convened an innovative panel at AIDS 2016 which built upon our continuing work to connect women from key populations also experiencing violations in healthcare settings such as trans women, women who use drugs and women who do sex work.¹ This session provided a platform for in-depth discussion with stakeholders in health and key advocates at the conference who both provided recommendations for moving the advocacy forward. Following this action ICW regional networks have been developing position papers on various SRHR gaps at regional level to push for action towards ensuring women and girls particularly those living with HIV enjoy their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

WHO Consolidated Guidelines on SRHR for Women Living with HIV

ICW members led by regional networks played a key role in the development of the recently released consolidated Guidelines on the SRHR of Women Living with HIV. These Guidelines represent critical and much needed guidance regarding how to achieve and support sexual health and health sexual lives of women living with HIV. These guidelines offer an opportunity for country adaptations that will have a direct impact on country specific service delivery interventions.²

1 <http://www.iamicw.org/news-and-media/global-news/an-icw-special-session-at-aids-2016>

2 http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/gender_rights/Ex-Summ-srhr-women-hiv/en/

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Forced and Coerced Sterilization

The forced and/or coercive sterilization of women living with HIV is a pervasive global phenomenon, and has been reported by women living with HIV³ in at least 30 countries – Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan⁴, Venezuela⁵, Viet Nam⁶ and Zambia⁷.

Over the past two years, in partnership with ICW Southern Africa, ICW Eastern Africa ICW Asia Pacific and the ICW Global Office has been supporting networks of women to undertake advocacy around forced and coerced sterilization. ICW Global Office has been working to support efforts to address. This year we facilitated a 3-day advocacy meeting in partnership with ICW Asia Pacific & ICW Southern Africa which brought together advocates from networks of women living with HIV from South Africa, China, Indonesia, and Nepal, to share information and strategies and deepen their advocacy strategies. The Global Office published an updated position paper on the subject.

Within this reporting period ICW Global Office joined two strategic litigation cases brought by KELIN as an interested party to help achieve justice for women living with HIV in Kenya by positioning the experiences of women in Kenya within the broader global phenomena of the forced and coerced sterilization of women living with HIV around the world. ICW Eastern Africa and ICW Kenya also joined one of the petitions as an interested party. Through this collective effort we hope to bring a new global perspective to the litigation that may help contextualize this violation as a form of discrimination on the basis of gender and HIV status.

3 These experiences have either been formally documented or represent documented reports from ICW, women living with HIV and their networks.

4 Global Commission on HIV and the Law: Women and HIV AIDSFree World January 23, 2012 <http://www.aidsfreeworld.org/Our-Issues/Womens-Rights/Women-and-HIV.aspx>

5 Ertürk, Yakin Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, United Nations Economic and Social Council 17 January 2005 E/CN.4/2005/72 , Citing to International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO), In-country Monitoring of the Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment Adopted at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV and AIDS – A Four Country Pilot Study (2004) and LACCASO and UNAIDS, Magdalena's Story: The Reproductive Rights of a Street Teenager in Caracas (1999); See also Busting the myth that sterilization can end AIDS

6 See Positive and Pregnant: How Dare You

7 More sterilizations of HIV-positive women uncovered. IRIN News 30 August 2010 <http://www.irinnews.org/report/90337/southern-africa-more-sterilizations-of-hiv-positive-women-uncovered>; See also Busting the myth that sterilization can end AIDS



ICW Global Office in partnership with ICW Southern Africa regional network, Women's Legal Center has filed a complaint with the South African Commission on Gender Equality requesting that the body investigate the prescription or timing out of legal cases of women living with HIV who had experienced sterilization. Undertaking advocacy on behalf of women living with HIV who have experienced the result from this advocacy effort could result in greater access to the courts a greater access to justice for women living with HIV whose cases are currently excluded from justice by civil litigation prescription or statute of limitations rules. If successful this could impact the avenue to justice for hundreds or thousands of women who have been sterilized against their will and until no lacked an avenue to justice.

ICW raised this issue first raised awareness of this issue in 1998 and we believe that through persistent advocacy and awareness efforts will result in the outright ending of the practice and all its forms and justifications. As a result of our advocacy there is greater awareness of the phenomena of sterilization and women are greater equipped to defend themselves in health care settings. While women living with HIV wait for justice, ICW continues to beat the drum and raise awareness about this egregious human rights violation.

b) Treatment Access

ICW has a long standing commitment to improving services for women and girls living with HIV. In this reporting period within the backdrop of the reviewed treatment guidelines that have led to the implementation of 'test and start' ICW achieved some important advocacy efforts to reform policy and practice particularly in ensuring implementation remains respectful of the rights of women and girls living with HIV to autonomy and choice as well as to informed consent. Additionally ICW worked with regional networks and through our social media to engage members in consciousness raising on the reviewed guidelines in order to promote uptake and retention to care.

WHO PMTCT Validation Process

In 2015, the WHO established a process for validating and certifying the work and achievements of countries that have virtually eliminated vertical transmission of HIV. In addition to focusing on clinical benchmarks that are conventionally the hallmark of validation of disease elimination, WHO approached ICW and GNP+ to develop an innovative set of minimum standards for community engagement, human rights, and gender equality.

The objective was to create a tool for evaluating whether countries seeking validation had met a baseline of non-negotiable human rights standards, and to gauge progress made towards

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achieving gender equality and integrating community engagement in their efforts to end vertical transmission of HIV. Both the tool and the process of data collection were designed by ICW to facilitate community engagement in monitoring and evaluation of national programs to prevent vertical transmission ICW Global Office in partnership with ICW EA, ICW Caribbean and UNAIDS developed a pilot training to engage women at the country level in participating in the EMTCT Validation processes.

As a result of our advocacy within the process and the influence of women who now have access to participate, stronger recommendations regarding essential service improvements and reduction of stigma and discrimination are being placed on countries seeking validation. Countries developing PMTCT guidelines and plans for requesting WHO validation are creating guidelines that are respectful of human rights and community engagement.

A good example is Kenya whose Framework for the Elimination of mother to child HIV and Syphilis launched in April 2017 have aligned to these set of indicators and moving towards a rights based PMTCT service delivery.

Community Guide on PMTCT for Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Mothers

ICW collaborated with GNP+ GNP+ and IATT. The details of the guidelines can be found on the link here. The community guide was launched on May 28th 2016 to mark The International day of action for women's health.⁸ The guidelines have been shared in both English and French to many countries in Africa and have been useful for community grassroots to provide guided PMTCT peer support for pregnant and breastfeeding women living with HIV.

c) Ending Criminalization

Criminalization of HIV and key populations is a key aspect of ICW advocacy agenda. ICW promoted interventions that sought to expose the criminalization of HIV non- disclosure, exposure and transmission as well as the criminalization of key populations such as sex workers, people who use drugs and sexual and gender orientation. ICW published updated Position Statements on the Criminalization of HIV and Sex Work. The Sex Workers, Sex Work and HIV statement was developed by ICW and supported by the Global Network of Sex Worker Projects (NSWP) following an Advocacy workshop presentation hosted by NSWP for ICW on the Rights of Sex Workers. We organized 'Know Your Rights' advocacy workshops on the topics, participated

8 <http://www.iamicw.org/resources/document-library/new-pmtct-treatment-literacy-guide-taking-action-for-women-s-health>

in direct action and participated in key advocacy dates to promote the rights of sex workers, transgender people and lesbian, bi-sexual and queer women living with HIV.

ICW Global Office is a member of the HIV Justice Network which has been working to undertake global advocacy to end criminalization of HIV status and key populations. In addition we are completing critical research to explore although not yet completed it represents the focus and direction of our work to end criminalization over the next two years. ICW Global Office provided technical support to ICW Malawi to join a legal effort to overturn the conviction of a mother living with HIV who had accidentally breastfed another woman's child. ICW Malawi convened a community meeting and joined in the advocacy efforts in support of an ultimately successful legal effort to get the conviction overturned. A large victory for women living with HIV in Malawi.

Further ICW recently launched a research project with American University Washington College of Law Human Rights Clinic to explore the surveillance and criminalization of HIV status as a barrier to achieving health and happy motherhood for women living with HIV. The research details will be shared in the next few months.

Our networks are directly involved and leading on key human rights issues of our times. Although we know we are far from being able to report on outcomes in these key areas in the short term we are engaging deeply on a number of fronts and on a number of levels. These issues cannot be resolved nor justice achieved within a year or even three years but overtime we know we will prevail through sheer persistence and strategic advocacy.

d) Engaging in the Sustainable Development Goals

The Global Office, with support from UN Women, conducted an innovative training on country level engagement with the Sustainable Development Goals. In three countries Namibia, Mozambique and Ukraine and provided small grant support for to Russia, Thailand, DRC, Zimbabwe, Kenya to conduct consultation workshops to sensitize women on the SDG's and highlight potential avenues for engagement within the country Processes. As a result of these and other trainings, sensitizations sessions, guides and communications individual advocates and networks of women living with HIV around the world are better capacitated with skills, information and strategies to would influence and change policy and practice. ICW also worked with the women to develop a guide to the Sustainable Development Goals for Network of Women Living with HIV⁹ which were distributed to women networks during the AIDS 2016 Conference in Durban.

One clear direct result of this training is that ICW EWNA network was able to hold a highly successful advocacy effort to become directly involved in the country level implementation process and they have leveraged that advocacy for support for ongoing work to engage in, monitor and evaluate the SDG implementation at the region and country levels. This will be useful in ensuring that targets that directly affect women living with HIV including those on Goal 3 on

9 <http://www.iamicw.org/resources/document-library/a-guide-to-the-sustainable-development-goals-for-networks-of-women-living-with-hiv>

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Health and Goal 5 on Gender Equality have women living with HIV engaged in implementation processes and holding countries accountable.

e) Evidence Based Advocacy

In addition to a prodigious amount of positions and policy papers on a wide variety of topics ICW has also been invited to produce research and commentary on key issues impacting women and girls. In particular ICW reviewed WHO prevention and treatment guidelines, Global Fund strategy 2016–2021 and a variety of documents in partnership with our global partners UNAIDS and WHO.

Research & Publications

ICW in partnership with WHO conducted a qualitative research report based on research conducted in Kenya titled “Values and preferences of adolescent girls and young women in Kenya for three HIV prevention approaches: PrEP, HIV self-testing and HIV partner notification”¹⁰. The paper was selected for presentation as a poster exhibition at the 9th IAS Conference on HIV Science held in July 2017. The study was instrumental in providing insight into WHO’s development of implementation guidelines on HIV self-testing, PrEP and HIV Partner notification.

ICW article titled ‘Engaging Communities and Promoting the Health and Human Rights of Women Living with HIV’¹¹ was featured in The Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes (JAIDS)¹² has released a special supplement on the incredible journey of the Global plan towards the elimination of new HIV infections among children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive which documents the journey and experiences of implementing the Global Plan and highlights recommendations for accelerating an end to AIDS among women, children and adolescents shared the perspectives of women living with HIV in the implementation of the Global plan to eliminate new HIV infections among children while keeping their mothers alive¹³. The articles also offered important recommendations for engaging women particularly women living with HIV and ensuring our participation in the realization of an end of new HIV infections among children as well as ensuring women living with HIV live healthy quality lives.

ICW in partnership with GNP+ continued with its coordination role for the People Living with HIV Stigma Index survey in 2014/2015. Notably ICW has been active in the current process to update and refine the methodology. The Stigma index 2.0 is scheduled to be operational late 2017.

10 <http://www.who.int/hiv/mediacentre/news/hiv-self-testing-guidelines-quotes/en/>

11 http://journals.lww.com/jaids/Abstract/2017/05011/Realizing_the_Promise_of_the_Global_Plan_.12.aspx

12 <http://www.iamicw.org/CampaignProcess.aspx?A=Link&VID=10181309&KID=72381&LID=284884>

13 <http://www.iamicw.org/CampaignProcess.aspx?A=Link&VID=10181309&KID=72381&LID=284885>

Each of these advocacy efforts represent key demonstrations of our impact on policy and practice regarding services that are of key interest for women living with HIV. We have established key influences at country and global level as well.

f) ICW Global Fund Engagement

Through our Global Fund programming the consortia members have been supporting country level networks to undertake advocacy for stronger engagement in the Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCM) through our capacity building and advocacy skills training and support. ICW networks have successfully advocated and capacitated women living with HIV to serve on their Country Coordinating Mechanisms, this year we added eight women to these bodies. As CCM Members, these ICW advocates are prepared, supported and in position to directly able to influence the allocation of funding at the country level.

The ICW Global Office also supported key trainings and support for networks of women living with HIV in the Caribbean, EWNA and in partnership with ICW Eastern Africa. As a result of these trainings: ICWEA continued to coordinate CSOs coalitions to influencing the funding mechanisms in Uganda and Tanzania. ICWEA built capacity of women living with HIV from three countries of Burundi, Kenya and Uganda in understanding the Global funding mechanisms and currently supporting the countries including Tanzania to participate in the Country Global Fund proposal writing. Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have ICWEA members participating in proposal writing.

Although much of this work to focus the Global Fund funding to the concerns of women living with HIV and will be reported in detail in the final report for that project. As a direct result of our trainings and advocacy more funding is being allocated in the proposals to the issues that are of primary concern to women living with HIV. ICW was able to secure funding from OSIEA to further the advocacy initiative and have developed a project to support increased engagement of young women and adolescent girls to engage in Global fund country processes as well as coordinate networks of women living with HIV to monitor how that influence translates into actual allocations once funding is received at the country level.



25th Anniversary



We were very excited to celebrate the networks 25th anniversary launched at an evening party during the AIDS 2016 conference in Durban, South Africa. The extraordinary event attended by ICW members including founding members, friends, donors and partners took place at Moyo by the Pier in Durban. The chief guest at the celebration was Madam Graca Machel former first lady of South Africa.

This marked the start of an all year silver jubilee commemoration which celebrated all our members for leading powerful advocacy efforts at the local, national, regional and global levels and strengthen our joint commitment to advocate for consistent empowerment and respect of rights for women living with HIV in all our diversity including our sisters who do sex work, our sisters who use drugs and our sisters who are transgender, lesbian, bisexual and queer women and from Indigenous communities. In this spirit of sisterhood we hope and acknowledge the collective commitment to achieve the ICW vision of ensuring that women living with HIV are meaningfully and effectively involved in shaping policies and programs that respond to our health, economic and social needs.



International Steering Committee

REGION	COUNTRY	NAME	TITLE
Asia Pacific	New Zealand	Marama Pala	Acting Chair
North America	USA	Delores Dockery	Treasurer
Asia Pacific	Malaysia	Norlela Binti Mokhtar	Member
Central Africa	DRC	Fetia Donatienne	Member
Caribbean	Guyana	Chrysol Albert	Member
Caribbean	Jamaica	Althea Cohen	Member
East Africa	Kenya	Teresia Njoki	Member
Europe and Central Asia	Ukraine	Olena Stryzak	Member
Europe and Central Asia	Ukraine	Zhenya Mailyan	Member
Latin America	Costa Rica	Ruth Mery Linares Hidalgo	Member
Latin America	Mexico	Hilda Esquivel	Member
MENA	Tunisia	Souhalia Ben Said	Member
North America	Canada	Marvelous Mucenje	Member
West Africa	Nigeria	Monisola Elizabeth Ajiboye	Member
Southern Africa	Zimbabwe	Evelyn Mashamba	Member

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AVAC	INPUD
APN+	NEPHAK
ASWA Africa Sex Worker Alliance	NSWP Network of Sex Worker Projects
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network	Oxfam Novib
CCABA Coalition of Children affected by AIDS	Population Council (Project SOAR)
Ford Foundation	PAPWC
GCWA Global Coalition on Women and AIDS	Robert Carr Network Foundation
Georgetown University Law Center.	Salamander Trust
Global Fund	Stop AIDS Now
GNP+	The Alliance Network
Global network of Sex work Projects	Team of Interpreters and Translators
Global Forum on MSM and HIV	UN Joint team on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS, UNWomen, UNDP, UNFPA)
Hothouse Design	USAID
HIV Justice Network	Vicci Tallis
ICASO	Women's Global Network on Reproductive Rights
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative	Women for Global Fund
ICW Regional Network	World Health Organization
ICW Country Chapters	Network of transgender people
Media	The International Steering Committee and staff of ICW

ICW Members for making it happen.

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