

#WHAT WOMEN WANT

A transformative framework for women, girls and gender equality in the context of HIV and sexual and reproductive health and rights



ATHENA

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#WHAT WOMEN WANT

www.athenetwork.org

Executive summary

Dear friends and colleagues

As we enter 2017, we are in an historic moment rich with opportunity, yet we are challenged with ambiguity, contradiction, and uncertainty that threaten to reverse the gains made in terms of our rights, our health, and our equality. The connections we grow, the work we each lead, the experience we bring, the vision we shape, and the future we build together is more important than ever for achieving a world where women, including young women, lead and achieve their dreams, and where we realize rights, health, dignity, justice, safety, and equality for all.

We see this reflected in and manifested by the attention to gender equality as a standalone goal in the Sustainable Development Goals, and what's more we had finally have begun to see an alignment of the stars with attention to women, girls, and gender equality in the HIV universe. Further, there are real tools in the pipeline, and entering implementation, that women and young women could use to prevent HIV acquisition... and the world had begun to wake up to the public health emergency young women and adolescent girls face.

Yet, at the same time as we have a spotlight that we've worked for decades through the HIV response to create, the very leaders, entities, movements, and networks that have brought this about, and have carried the HIV response on their back, are closing down, moving away from HIV, or struggling to stay afloat. Further, we see HIV falling off the broader women's health and rights agenda. This is a critical issue and a massive problem as these are the very actors that make change happen as they translate political frameworks to lived realities.

So, #WhatWomenWant and need more than ever:

- Real, sustained investment in women-led civil society and community partners because these are the actors, entities and networks that are the engines of change. Together, we build movements, we mentor new leadership, we change social norms, we care for our communities, we hold our governments to account. We make change happen.
- Renewed collaboration and joined up action by EVERYONE. We have a plethora of initiatives, strategies, approaches, and even investment; however these pockets of activity and investment may keep us all spinning our wheels and not moving forward unless we are bringing streams together to create that mighty river of change.
- To be at the table, not just on the menu. The type of joined up leadership that will move us forward is one where we reflect what we say: that young women and women need to be at the center and at the helm. Panels about young women should be populated with young women. High level panels about women and gender equality need to include the voices of feminist community change agents. We need to be leading the conversation – starting it, setting the parameters for it, and bringing our solutions to it.
- And it's way past time for us all to move outside of our comfort zones: To achieve different outcomes, we need to think differently, act differently, and invest differently.

So, as we look to the horizon and re-commit ourselves to progress, let us create vehicles that start from where women and girls are, what we need, what solutions we offer, and what we want. Let us embed our shared work toward dignity, inclusion, health, justice, and equality in the fabric of our communities and the heart of our countries. Let us share our power to build change from the ground up and strengthen our roots of resilience. Let us be the change we seek.

With heartfelt thanks.

Together we rise.

The ATHENA Team

GLOBAL GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SDGs)



Out of the 17 SDGs, these eight have gender equality integrated within them with SDG 5 a stand-alone goal for achieving gender equality.

10 FAST-TRACK COMMITMENTS TO END AIDS BY 2030

90-90-90

1

Ensure that 30 million people living with HIV have access to treatment through meeting the 90-90-90 targets by 2020.

2

Eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2020 while ensuring that 1.6 million children have access to HIV treatment by 2018.

3

Ensure access to combination prevention options, including pre-exposure prophylaxis, voluntary medical male circumcision, harm reduction and condoms, to at least 90% of people by 2020, especially young women and adolescent girls in high-prevalence countries and key populations—gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender people, sex workers and their clients, people who inject drugs and prisoners.

4

Eliminate gender inequalities and end all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, people living with HIV and key populations by 2020.

5

Ensure that 90% of young people have the skills, knowledge and capacity to protect themselves from HIV and have access to sexual and reproductive health services by 2020, in order to reduce the number of new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women to below 100 000 per year.

6

Ensure that 75% of people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV benefit from HIV-sensitive social protection by 2020.

7

Ensure that at least 30% of all service delivery is community-led by 2020.

8

Ensure that HIV investments increase to US\$ 26 billion by 2020, including a quarter for HIV prevention and 6% for social enablers.

9

Empower people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV to know their rights and to access justice and legal services to prevent and challenge violations of human rights.

10

Commit to taking AIDS out of isolation through people-centred systems to improve universal health coverage, including treatment for tuberculosis, cervical cancer and hepatitis B and C.

A new political landscape: “alignment of the stars”

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development herald a new era of mainstreaming and working across silos.¹ Gender equality is a top priority in the SDGs with SDG 5 a stand-alone goal dedicated to gender equality. This creates important new opportunities for advancing gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment, and forms a crucial part of the rapidly evolving global development architecture.

Gender equality is central to the UNAIDS 2016–2021 strategy.² The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has addressing gender equality as a core objective in its 2017–2022 strategy.³ The United States has launched its first global strategy to empower adolescent girls.⁴

Together with attention to gender equality from The World Bank, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and funding mechanisms such as the Global Fund, women’s empowerment is firmly on the global agenda.

Efforts to halt the HIV epidemic faced by young women in East and Southern Africa include cross-sectional programming and global partnerships. For example, in

2016 PEPFAR launched DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, Safe) – a program to address the structural drivers that increase girls’ and young women’s HIV risk in ten countries.⁵ In parallel, the Global Fund’s new strategy includes the “scale-up of programs to support adolescent girls and young women, including programs to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights” recognizing the need to address high HIV incidence among girls and young women, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.

The African Union calls for greater attention, reaffirmed commitment and resourced action to ensure the health, rights and well-being of adolescent girls and young women throughout their life-cycle.⁶ And the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is leading the call for country program guidance to implement commitments to HIV prevention and gender equality among adolescent girls and young women.⁷ Countries are taking steps to accelerate their interventions for adolescent girls and young women, and have established global partnerships.



SDG 3 Maternal and infant mortality, HIV, SRH

3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes

SDG 5 Gender equality

5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere



5.5 Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences

1. www.globalgoals.org

2. UNAIDS (2015) *On the fast-track to end AIDS*. Available at: www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/20151027_UNAIDS_PCB37_15_18_EN_rev1.pdf

3. www.theglobalfund.org/en/strategy/

4. US State Department (2016) *United States Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls*. Available at: www.state.gov/documents/organization/254904.pdf

5. www.pepfar.gov/partnerships/ppp/dreams/

6. UNAIDS (2015) *Empower Young Women and Adolescent Girls: Fast-tracking the AIDS Epidemic in Africa*. Available at: www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/JC2746_en.pdf

7. UNAIDS (2016) *HIV prevention among adolescent girls and young women*. Available at: www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/UNAIDS_HIV_prevention_among_adolescent_girls_and_young_women.pdf

SDG 5: ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

SDG 5 focuses on ending gender discrimination and all forms of violence against women and girls; eliminating harmful practices including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage; recognizing unpaid care work; enhancing social protection; ensuring women's leadership and participation; universal access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH); equal rights to ownership of assets and access to credit; using technology to empower women and girls; and policy strengthening.

Further, the 2030 Agenda recognizes that *“realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets”* and that the *“systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda is crucial.”* (para 20)

We see this in the area of HIV, where gender inequalities, discrimination, violence and harmful practices negatively affect women and girls, men and boys, and drive HIV acquisition as well as amplify its impact⁸.

Areas in the 2030 Agenda where gender is explicitly mainstreamed include:

- **SDG 3** (maternal and infant mortality, HIV, SRH)
- **SDG 4** (eliminate gender disparities in education, create safe and gender sensitive learning environments)
- **SDG 6** (equitable sanitation with a specific attention to women and girls)
- **SDG 10** (economic, social and political inclusion)
- **SDG 11** (safe transport, access to safe public spaces)
- **SDG 16** (reduce all forms of violence, end abuse, trafficking and exploitation, ensure access to justice)
- **SDG 17** (disaggregated data collection)

www.globalgoals.org

2016 POLITICAL DECLARATION ON HIV AND AIDS: ON THE FAST-TRACK TO ACCELERATE THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV AND TO END THE AIDS EPIDEMIC BY 2030

This progressive and actionable Political Declaration on HIV includes a set of specific, time-bound targets and actions that must be achieved by 2020 if we are to meet the 2030 target of ending AIDS.

“Pursuing transformative AIDS responses to contribute to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls” (para 61)

The Declaration has a strong focus on women and girls and acknowledges the interconnectedness of HIV with gender inequality, the empowerment of women, achieving full sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and ending gender-based violence thus heralding in new high level political attention to women, girls, and gender equality.

There are 12 operational paragraphs stating explicit commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of all women providing a much stronger positioning of gender equality and its link to the empowerment of all women and girls than in preceding declarations

since 2001. The text emphasizes women's leadership, naming areas such as social norms around care work for the first time, and drawing explicit links between violence against women and HIV, and the mental health consequences of violence. The document also names the forced or coerced sterilization of women living with HIV for the first time, and uses relatively progressive language around ensuring that *“women can exercise their right to have control over, and decide freely and responsibly on, matters related to their sexuality.”* The document also draws specific attention to youth, SRH, and is unique for naming transgender persons as a key affected population.

Further, the Declaration moves from a position of utilizing a gender equality lens to bring about an effective HIV response, towards one where a gender sensitive and transformative response contributes to a broader goal of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment. This shift is consistent with the end of AIDS exceptionalism and the situating of the HIV response within a broader tapestry of global goals, as within the SDGs.

www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2016/2016-political-declaration-HIV-AIDS

8. STRIVE Research Consortium (2015) *Greentree II: Violence against women and girls and HIV: Report on a high level consultation on the evidence and its implications*. Available at: <http://strive.lshtm.ac.uk/resources/greentree-ii-violence-against-women-and-girls-and-hiv>

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) 60 RESOLUTION ON WOMEN, THE GIRL CHILD AND HIV

The continued engagement with the gender dynamics of the global HIV epidemic and response as part of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is key as it helps take HIV out of isolation and forge new partnerships and accountability mechanisms to reach 2030 targets.

The CSW 60 Resolution on Women, the Girl Child and HIV (Res 60/2) was successfully adopted in 2016 by consensus, for the first time since 2010. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) ministers have since requested that an implementation framework be developed to ensure countries turn the resolution into actions.

This Resolution places a stronger emphasis on structural issues in relation to gender equality

and women's empowerment and calls for gender-responsive approaches and an end to gender-based violence, discrimination against women and girls, and harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. It also upholds women's right to control their sexuality and, by including access to post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), women's ability to control HIV risk.

The Resolution urges governments to increase financing to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through national AIDS responses (OP19), and to promote the meaningful participation and leadership of women and girls living with HIV in a gender responsive approach to the national response (OP20).

www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2016/27

From talk to action

Advocates working for a gender-transformative HIV response are raising questions around how to leverage this progressive and positive shift in the political development framework, and are calling for action to make change happen.

Women's rights are human rights

Gaps and omissions in the political landscape remain around key areas that give women control over their bodies and their lives, and increase individual agency. These are particularly in relation to sex and sexuality – comprehensive sexuality education; universal access to full, comprehensive and safe sexual and reproductive health services; and sexual rights, including the freedom to love and be loved safely.

Invest in women's civil society to support stronger societies and advance gender equality

On the most basic level, investment in an HIV response for women by women has fallen short. This is especially true in the area of women's civil society. Where there is funding, it only trickles down to women. Financial commitments have been insufficient to accelerate progress in SRHR and violence against women.⁹

Sustained investment, including new and diverse funding mechanisms, is a key part of translating the impetus into concrete change. Women, and particularly young women, need investment in their solutions,

"I want the UN to UNify against HIV and AIDS."

KHADIJAH ABDULLAH, USA

"Focusing on some women and not others can be problematic – we need to invest across the spectrum."

CATHERINE NYAMBURA, KENYA

and mechanisms that are nimble, accessible and partnership-based rather than project-based.

Support coordinated women-led leadership and intersectional movement-building

The lack of strong, progressive language and meaningful inclusion of key populations from the 2030 Agenda and 2016 *Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS* contrasts with the bold commitments to gender equality, wrongly separating one from the other. It sidelines and excludes women and girls from the most impacted and marginalized populations and, while building linkages in some areas, belies the willingness of political actors to recognize and address the intersectionality of issues, different forms of disadvantage and discrimination, and advance human rights for all.

9. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2014) *Financing the unfinished business of gender equality and women's rights: priorities for the post-2015 framework*. Available at: www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/Short%20version%20-%20FINALFinancing%20the%20unfinished%20business%20of%20gender%20equality.pdf

There is a need for movement-building within and between movements of women and girls, young people, and key population networks, and for coordinated, nuanced advocacy and messages that speak to the intersectionality of issues and complexity of women's lives. Movement-building led by inclusive and diverse coalitions of women creates stronger responses.

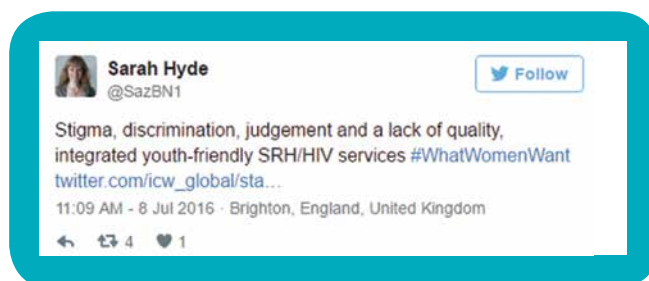


Amplify and integrate feminist leadership to ensure bold, transformative results

With leadership from women's civil society and in true partnership with donors, we have the opportunity to ensure a women- and girl-centered interpretation and implementation of these commitments.

In finalizing a global framework to monitor progress towards the new commitments, UNAIDS and implementing countries have an opportunity to make the data revolution we need a reality in the HIV response. This includes setting benchmarks for reporting disaggregated data, expanding data collection to cover SRHR, and ensuring countries analyze their data from a gender equality perspective.

Further, it is vital that all partners and initiatives work in concert so that we collaboratively move towards making real transformative change.



IT'S NOT OVER YET

- 80% of all young women living with HIV lived in sub-Saharan Africa in 2015.¹⁰
- Failure to reach people who inject drugs means that global governments missed the 2015 UN goal of halving new HIV infections among people who inject drugs.¹¹
- The twin epidemics of HIV and tuberculosis is one of the world's greatest public health crises.¹²
- Gender inequalities, including gender-based violence remain endemic.
- Stigmatization, marginalization and criminalization of key populations continue to create barriers to accessing HIV services.
- 2015 global targets in HIV treatment and vertical transmission have been met, but challenges remain in relation to quality, human rights, and retention in care.

"There's a lot of attention to women, girls and gender equality, but not a lot of coordination among the actors – how will the commitments be fulfilled? How they're tracking it? Who will be in charge of delivering? [There is a] lack of coordination among and across institutions in their efforts to achieve gender equality."

#WHATWOMENWANT VIDEO CAMPAIGN

10. UNAIDS (2016) *The Prevention Gap Report*. Available at: www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2016/prevention-gap

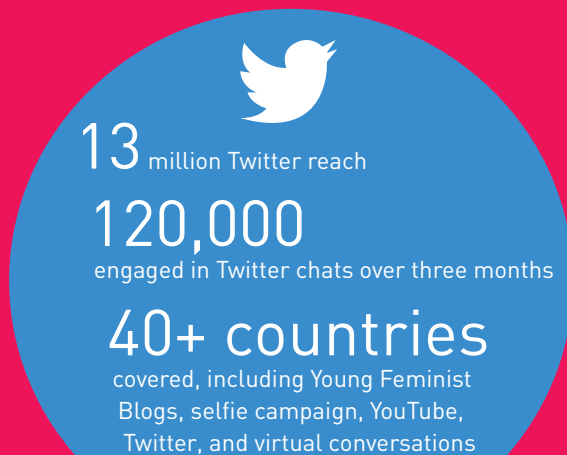
11. UNAIDS (2016) *The Prevention Gap Report*. Available at: www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2016/prevention-gap

12. www.who.int/hiv/topics/tb/en/

Mobilizing for action

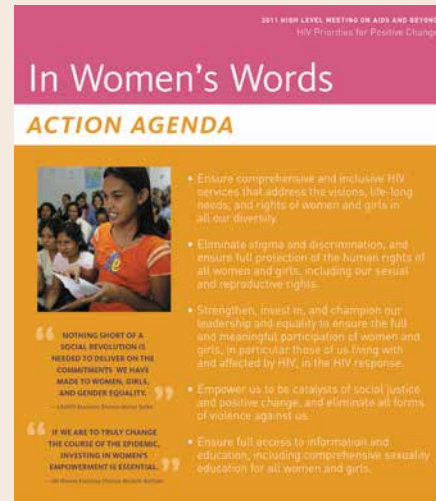
Building on 2011 *In Women's Words Action Agenda*, ATHENA Network undertook a multi-part consultation, in collaboration with a global working group of women thought leaders and a working group of young women leaders living with and affected by HIV, to highlight practical priorities in the areas of SRHR, gender-based violence and young women's empowerment, in the context of HIV.

25 organizational partners from five continents took part and responses spanned 16 countries.



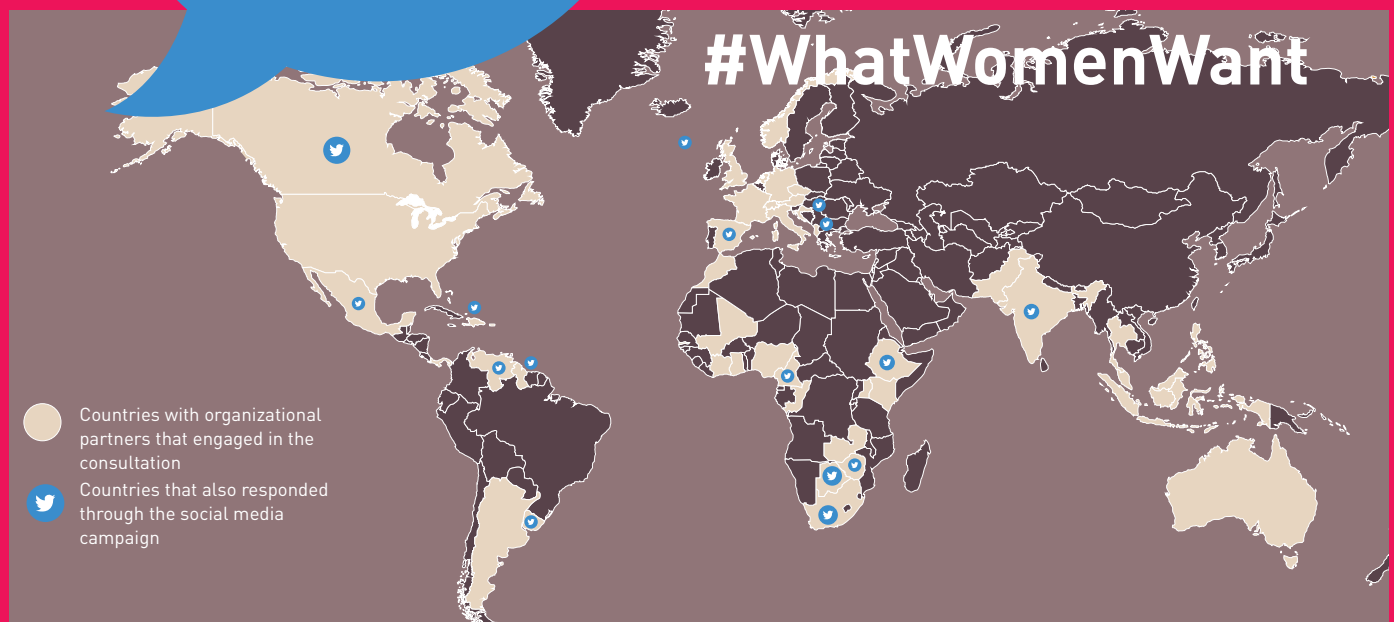
Looking back to move forward

On the eve of the 2011 High-Level Meeting (HLM) on AIDS, ATHENA Network launched *In Women's Words: HIV Priorities for Positive Change Action Agenda*.¹³ The call to action and five key messages came out of a virtual community consultation. Since the 2011 HLM, networks of women living with HIV and from the women's movement have used these key messages to catalyze change for women's and girls' health and rights within a gender equality framework.



Advocating for more inclusive, empowering and mainstreamed agendas for women and girls, in all their diversity, paid dividends with the progressive 2030 Agenda and 2016 *Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS*.

In 2016, the five priority messages remain equally relevant and urgent for keeping global commitments on track. This urgency intersects with the new opportunities that the current political landscape offers, galvanizing feminist advocates and activists to push for meaningful and lasting change.



13. ATHENA Network (2011) *In Women's Words: Action Agenda*. Available at: www.athenanetwork.org/assets/files/Action%20agenda/womenswords_0531-%20FINAL.pdf

#WhatWomenWant for the HIV response: approaches for women, led by women

A NEW SPACE FOR NEW CONVERSATIONS

#WhatWomenWant was launched as a campaign, powered by young women who want to be meaningfully involved in making change for women and girls. Using social media, it offers an innovative vehicle to amplify new voices, meet young women where they are, allow them to connect with others, lead with lived expertise, bring their solutions to the table, and build across and between issues, sectors, and movements.

The campaign engages through an expanding network of primarily women-led organizations and individuals who are working to advance gender equality through a women's rights and health focus. With each contribution, #WhatWomenWant aims to:

- bring attention to the urgent need to address women's rights and gender-related disparities within and beyond the HIV response
- catalyze joined up action where gender equality, human rights, SRH, gender-based violence, and HIV intersect
- put women and young women in charge of defining their own agendas
- harness the lived experience of women and young women in all of their diversity to create advocacy tools by and for women, to advance their own solutions wherever they are
- identify leadership opportunities for women and young women in all of their diversity to engage stakeholders and be meaningfully involved in the decision-making processes that most affect their lives.

#WhatWomenWant was inspired by the impact of the virtual activism surrounding the 2016 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and used that momentum to build a platform where women could mobilize for upcoming political opportunities.

The 2016 High-Level Meeting (HLM) on AIDS and the Durban International AIDS Conference were opportunities to work within the HIV sphere while simultaneously moving to broader health, development and gender equality fora to catalyze joined up conversation and action across the SDGs.

#WhatWomenWant has formulated and moved a broad gender equality and health agenda, resulting in important attention to women and gender equality in the *2016 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS*. It has built robust links across movements and brought together advocates calling for an end to child marriage, to halt sexual violence, ensure safe and legal abortion rights, and advance comprehensive sexuality education.

"#WhatWomenWant is FOR women, BY women. It holds the potential to showcase OUR challenges, successes, opportunities, and capabilities."

ANNAH, ZIMBABWE

#WhatWomenWant is building accountability from the ground up, and creating space for a democratic and inclusive development where no one is left behind. What's more, #WhatWomenWant is organic and nimble and can call out troubling trends just as it has proactively articulated priorities.

#WhatWomenWant has amplified women's and girls' priorities to claim and enjoy their SRHR, and called attention to the architecture needed to see priorities transformed into realities.

"Young women cannot achieve their fullest potential if they don't have the tools, knowledge, and power to control their sexuality. Comprehensive sexuality education that addresses power, choice, sexual pleasure, gender and sexual identity, and safety is foundational to facilitate women's autonomy and informed consent over what happens to their bodies."

#WHATWOMENWANT VIDEO CAMPAIGN



#WHATWOMENWANT AT THE 2016 HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON AIDS

A #WhatWomenWant breakfast meeting brought together thought leaders and policy makers on the only all-woman panel at the High-Level Meeting (HLM) on AIDS, to discuss the way forward.

Community activists sat together as peers in conversation with institutional thought leaders and government delegates in a room filled with key influencers across gender equality, SRHR, and HIV. The undercurrent of business 'un-usual' swept us into an energetic dialogue on how we make the most of the new and renewed attention to gender equality in the HIV response.



We explored what it means to empower women and girls in all of our diversity, what has worked to date, and what we must do differently.

As women and especially young women, we know what we need to bring about meaningful change in our lives. Yet, in 2016, we are still not meaningfully involved in making the decisions and finding the solutions that make sense in our lives and spring from our lived expertise.

Mmpaseka Steve Letsike (Access Chapter 2) moderating the panel.



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We asked #WhatWomenWant from the future HIV response to realize gender equality and to hold governments and leadership bodies accountable.

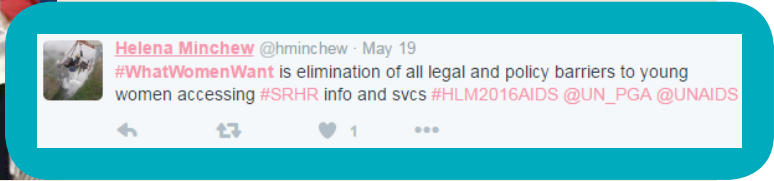
#WHATWOMENWANT

WE WANT ...

- strategies to achieve gender equality and improve women's and girl's health and rights, interlinked and placed at the center of the HIV response.
- sustained investment in women-led civil society and young women's leadership.
- urgent action to address the HIV epidemic among women, and especially young women, in all our diversity.
- full sexual and reproductive health and rights and the means to realize and enjoy them.
- safety from violence at home, work and school, in the community, and in health settings.
- women-centered and women-led research and innovation.
- a meaningful seat at decision-making tables as well as the resources to create our own.
- to be educated, empowered and equal in all areas of our lives. As girls, young women and women, in all our diversity, we can bring about change, enjoy our full potential and realize our dreams.



Yana Panfilova from Ukraine speaks to the panel, with Kate Thomson (Global Fund), Jan Beagle (UNAIDS), Ambassador Deborah Birx and Lillian Mworeko (ICWEA).



A transformative framework for women, girls and gender equality

The **#WhatWomenWant** campaign has brought to the surface priority issues for women and girls around the world in relation to claiming and realizing their sexual and reproductive health and rights, and the architecture that needs to be in place to see these priorities transformed into realities.

At the center of a transformative framework (see page 12) we see a strong, independent, resourced women's civil society – vital to achieving gender equality, human rights and democracy, beyond any single health or development intervention. Women's civil society is the change agent at the core of movement-building, providing the 'backbone' to services, reaching into and partnering with communities, bringing lived expertise to policy making and advancing accountable governance.

STRONG WOMEN'S CIVIL SOCIETY

Women's civil society – and the HIV movement it helped create – is a vital partner in thought leadership, expanding the evidence base, tracking and ensuring the implementation of political commitments, reaching women in all of their diversity, deconstructing and applying a feminist analysis to women's realities, mentoring new leadership and transforming gender norms.

As such, women's civil society advances both women's practical needs and our strategic interests – it enables us to see beyond getting the next meal on the table, to transforming our political realities.



FULFIL (Funds for Lasting Feminist Leadership)

"There are no women's rights without a women's rights movement. We must resource the community" Jessica Horn, Director of Programmes at African Women's Development Fund (AWDF)

A gender equality funding mechanism is needed to invest in feminist leadership to undertake the long-haul work of gender transformation and building gender equitable societies. Sustained investment is a key part of translating this impetus into concrete change for women and girls. Women, and particularly young women, need investment in their solutions and mechanisms that are nimble, accessible and partnership-based rather than project-based.



Civil society plays a crucial role in moving from rhetoric to action, and in particular in ensuring that the implementation of commitments take into account the lived realities of women's and girls' lives. It can ensure that no-one is left behind and work across communities, movements and diversities. With the renewed global attention to women and girls, parallel financial support will ensure that policy commitments are budgeted, funds are equitably dispersed, and attention is given to the women-led and grassroots organizations making change happen.

LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION, AND MOVEMENT-BUILDING

Leadership, coordination and movement-building are products of a strong women's civil society, and essential for a healthier, just, safe and equal world for all. Leadership and coordination ensure that the current surge in attention to adolescent girls and young women, and gender equality translate into sustained, meaningful change. We all need to work together and in continual dialogue for mutual learning and growth. Women want more than pockets of activity

"A feminist approach enables us to deconstruct gender and body policing that continues to deny women agency over their bodies and hinders access to services."

TSHEPO, SOUTH AFRICA

"We need more youth voices in high-level decisions."

VANESSA, TANZANIA

or occasional high-level attention – fragmentation will hold us back. As one colleague noted, “*the way we fund creates fragility*” and as another underscored, “*current approaches to funding hold us back from translating our work across sectors or acting on synergies thus hindering our innovation*”.

Young women are calling for meaningful spaces and pathways and for their leaders to set agendas, not simply fill a seat on a panel or task force. Leadership also implies movement-building across related but often siloed fields of advocacy

“The women’s movement continues to expose the multiple vulnerabilities of women to HIV.”

TSHEPO, SOUTH AFRICA

“Any comprehensive and effective HIV response needs to question patriarchal and hetero-normative values and norms.”

JOSEPHINE, INDIA

“Sure, SDGs could make a nice path for progress – but we still have to work ‘on the ground’ because most of the governments do not take the conclusions seriously. On the other hand, if we do have UN Women and the CSW [Commission on the Status of Women] and CEDAW [Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women], it is wise to use them and their documents properly. It would be wonderful if the conclusions of the meeting would actually be implemented on the local level, and not just signed and put in the tray.”

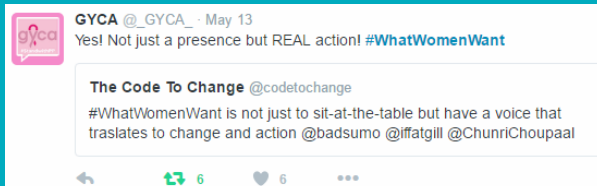
MARINELLA, CROATIA

“The Global South in particular is fraught with omissions in data collection that starts at the birth of young girls and ripples across their lifetimes ... data collection agencies and the scientific community must be educated on the importance of gender equitable data collection.”

KATHERINE, KENYA

“What I want is better data and evaluation systems.”

L’ORANGELIS, PUERTO RICO



MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION

Governments are responsible for implementing the commitments they have made towards women, girls and gender equality in the context of HIV. Women’s civil society and leadership can and should be engaged as partners in deciding how, when and where these commitments will be implemented, and to ensure that those who are most impacted by HIV are reached.

Women must be at the center of monitoring implementation and of holding governments and leaders accountable. This entails women-led and -centered research, advocacy, indicator development, data collection, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), tracking implementation, and documenting and qualitative and quantitative measuring of change. Who is asking the questions and who is answering is as important as what is being asked.

Young women are looking to digital tools and technologies to evolve the monitoring and accountability agenda. Insight and experience can now be shared globally and in real time, unlocking a new world of how we might learn together and deliver.

“I would like to see more women studying medicine and research, and more women and girls being involved in decision making and government.”

XIANA, SPAIN

SDGs

UNAIDS STRATEGY

GLOBAL FUND STRATEGY

CSW 60

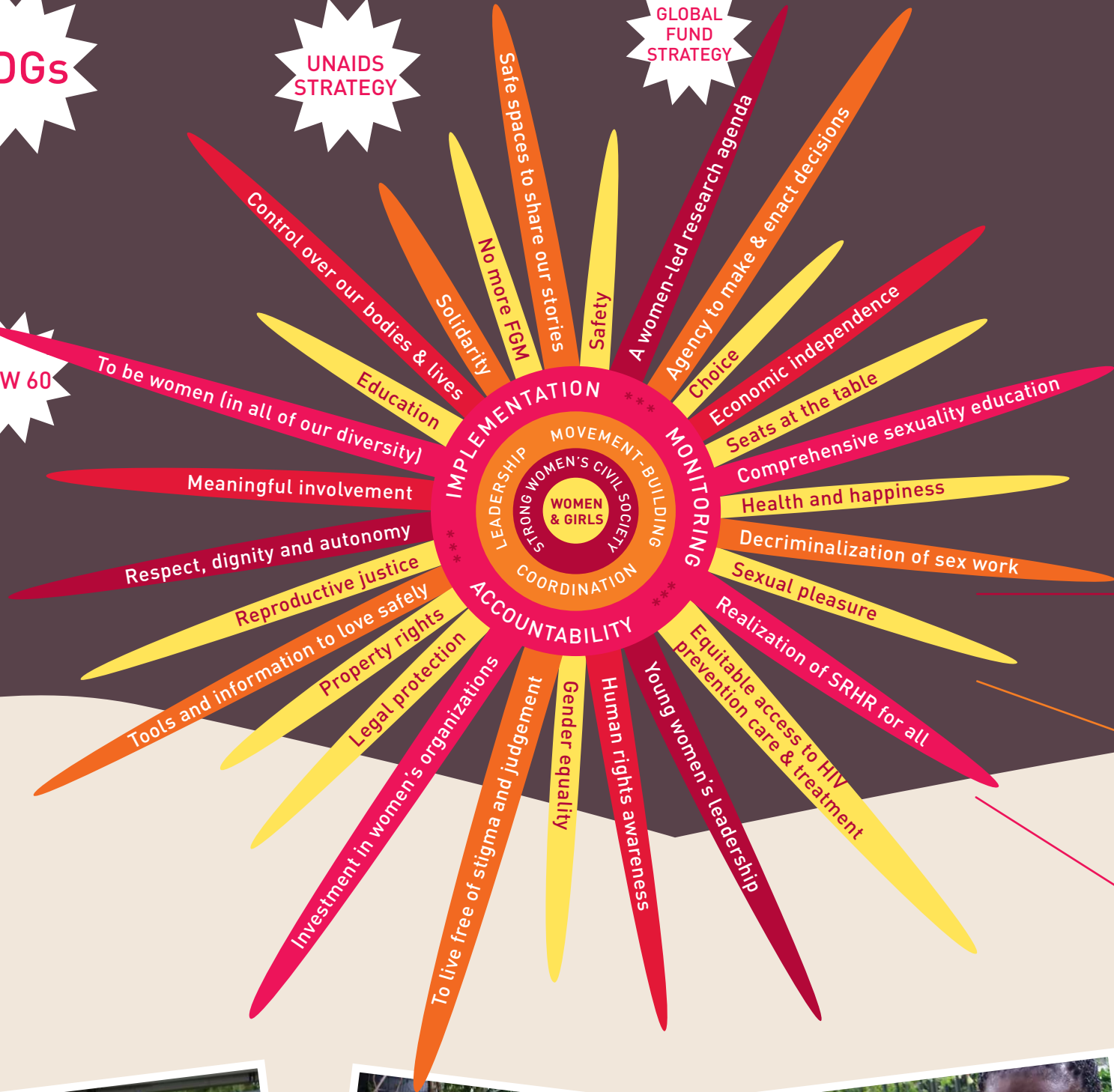
WORLD BANK

A transformative framework for women, girls and gender equality

"We envisage a world ... in which every woman and girl enjoys full gender equality and all legal, social and economic barriers to their empowerment have been removed."
TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD: THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PARA 8

At the center of the of the #WhatWomenWant framework is a strong women's civil society from which emanates leadership, co-ordination and movement-building to ensure that gender equality commitments are translated into sustained, meaningful change. The inclusion and engagement of feminist leadership in monitoring implementation and progress, strengthens accountability. These core rings galvanize and root lasting changes in the lived realities of women and girls.

"We want to be at the table every time we are discussed. We are NOT targets"
#WHATWOMENWANT PHOTO CAMPAIGN



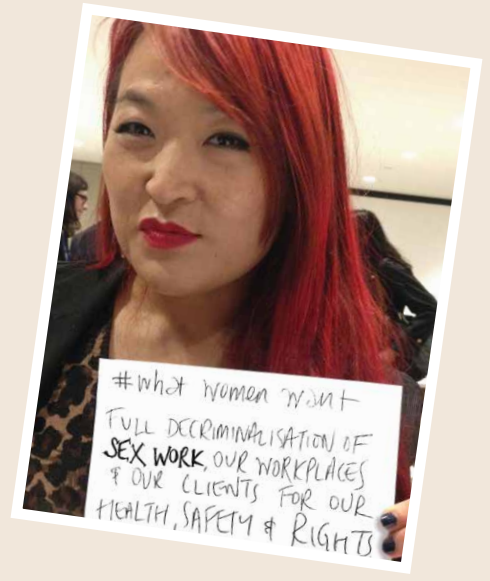
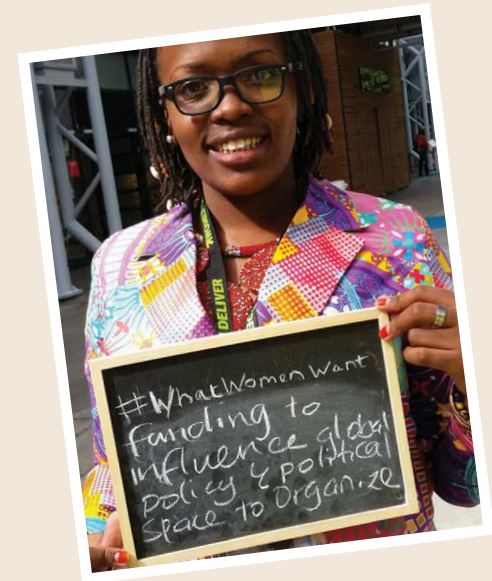
Invest in women's civil society to support stronger societies and advance gender equality

FULFIL (Funds for Lasting Feminist Leadership): a gender equality fund to undertake the long-haul work of gender transformation and building gender equitable societies

Support co-ordinated women-led leadership and intersectional movement-building

#WhatWomenWant: a resourced, inclusive, democratic and community-led platform where many can speak, amplify one another's voices, and translate this momentum into thought leadership, coordination, and accountability

Amplify and integrate feminist leadership to ensure bold, transformative results



"We need to recognize that for young women to step into leadership roles, others need to step back and share the power they hold. This is often the hardest part because it requires assessing and shifting the power dynamics."

ANA, MEXICO

YOUNG WOMEN AS LEADERS

We are seeing a vibrant vision of what young women want to achieve – gender equality, an agenda that upholds their right to health and wellbeing, and end to violence against women in all its forms, to develop HIV prevention tools that work for women in the context of their lives, and to create space for young women leaders to emerge and take their seat at the table among global decision-makers. This energy and momentum now needs to be translated into real and tangible mechanisms that will support women-led civil society to create the change we need and want.

Building blocks for young women's leadership

- Capacity-building to build skills for advocacy
- Innovative solutions and technology to expand access and amplify participation in political processes through different channels
- Engagement in political discourse
- Intergenerational and peer-to-peer dialogue and mentorship
- Resources



"Intergenerational leadership and mentorship supports sustainable development. Young women must be engaged and involved in decision-making with the support and guidance of experienced mentors, to enhance their capacity and confidence to play a leadership role in the HIV response."

#WWW VIDEO CAMPAIGN



Regional perspectives

While globally, #WhatWomenWant highlights a collective energy around the central rings and overarching themes of the framework, we also see distinct regional priorities emerging through the blog series, engagement with the regional reference group, and other aspects of the campaign. Engagements with the campaign are shaped by diverse country and regional contexts, which shine a light on some more regionally-specific cultural and political challenges, as well as women's and young women's responses to these. While these overlap both with the global picture and other regional priorities, we also recognize that some of these priorities – and communities' responses to them – are driven and informed by different social, economic, and structural factors.

"The seemingly unbreakable link between 'family pride' and sexual 'purity' of its woman folk make it difficult for women and girls to discuss and access information and services related to sexual and reproductive health. Comprehensive sex education that is sex-positive and inclusive of gender and sexuality minorities is a necessity to bridge this gap."

JOSEPHINE VARGHESE, INDIA

"We want to move beyond speeches to action-oriented objectives and goals."

IFFAT GILL, PAKISTAN

ASIA-PACIFIC

- **Education for all, including comprehensive sexuality education**
- **Safety**
- **The freedom to remain single**
- **Safe, accessible non-judgemental services for sexual health**
- **More protection from sexual harassment especially in the workplace and community**
- **An end to marital rape**
- **Attention and recognition to women's sexuality and sexual identity, removing social taboos around sexual expression and pleasure, and human rights support for sexual minorities including LGBTI people**
- **Enabling policy and legal environments**

"Women want to separate sex from sin."
DAME CAROL KIDU, PAPUA
NEW GUINEA



YP FOUNDATION, INDIA

"The stigma associated with, and the constraint placed upon the sexual lives of young women is high, and the HIV response can only be appropriate if it is seen through a lens of comprehensive sexual and reproductive rights."

SHIRIN CHOUDHARY, INDIA

"A gender analysis in humanitarian work is fundamental."

MIKI WALI, FIJI

"Implement policy and laws that allow [women and girls to make decisions that advance their rights and health]."

CAITLIN FIGUEIREDO, AUSTRALIA

Young feminist blog series

JOSEPHINE VARGHESE, INDIA // JUNE 2016

What are the gaps in the HIV response for women and girls and what are the key barriers and enablers to accessing HIV and SRHR services?

The main barrier in accessing HIV and SRHR services in my community continues to be the taboo surrounding discussing sexual activity and sexual health, especially outside the context of marriage. The seemingly unbreakable link between 'family pride' and sexual 'purity' of its woman folk make it difficult for women and girls to discuss and access information and services related to SRH. Comprehensive sex education that is sex-positive and inclusive of gender and sexuality minorities is a necessity to bridge this gap. Social stigma and criminalization of sex work still act as barriers for this highly vulnerable group from accessing HIV and SRHR services. ...

What needs to be done to address GBV in your region?

While policies and legislative changes are necessary to curb the violation of fundamental human rights of women (right against violence, right to a life of dignity, right to bodily integrity), what seems lacking in my community is a revolutionary change in the patriarchal mindset of the common person – regardless of their

gender. Patriarchy is overarching, and encompasses not only men, but all people. Ongoing critical self-introspection of actions, perspectives and values we take for granted is essential to do away with oppressive patriarchy.

A great deal of awareness around violence against women was created during the popular protests in the wake of the Delhi gang rape a few years ago. Yet it seems like the majority of the protests focused on punishment rather than socio-economic change that would prevent gender-based violence. The delay in completion of trials along with falling conviction rates seen in rape cases stand as testimony to the fact that reforms in the judiciary are long overdue. A revision of colonial-era laws in the global south is also called for. It is to be remembered that these laws were formulated in a hetero-normative and patriarchal western context that was alien to cultural and historical contexts of the colonized cultures. Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code that criminalizes any sexual activity outside penile-vaginal intercourse is an example for this. Another area that needs urgent reform is marital rape, which is still not criminalized in India.

"[My top health priority is] reproductive health rights of course, but also, very importantly, to include psychological support. The other day at my HIV clinic I saw a woman crying. She had just received results on her HIV+ status. She was all by herself. I gave her my number though I'm sure she'll never call. My heart broke at the certainty that she'll go through this process by herself with no mental support at all."

XIANA ALBOR, SPAIN

NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE

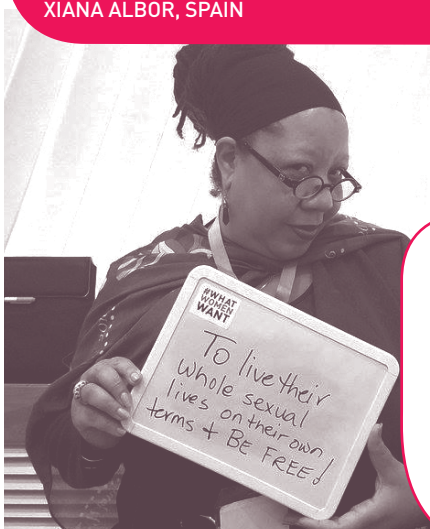
- **Autonomy and power over our own bodies, including access to safe and legal abortion and post-abortion care**
- **Respect**
- **Mentoring to support young women leaders**
- **Gender equitable data collection**
- **Women-controlled prevention tools**
- **Psychosocial support**
- **To address the systemic nature of gender-based violence**
- **Strengthened mechanisms for government accountability**
- **Access to decision-making spaces**

"In order to protect the rights of women and girls in diversity there must be strengthened enforcement of laws and a changed narrative of believing the experiences of women."

MELISSA, CANADA

"A strong women's civil society is important because women and girls know what they need most, and must be empowered to demand it."

ESTELLE WAGNER, USA



EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

- **Access to SRHR for all, including in-vitro fertilization for women living with HIV**
- **An end to gender-based violence**
- **To unlearn what we have learnt about gender roles**
- **To teach young girls, as soon as possible, what their endless possibilities are**
- **Safe spaces**

“Access to SRHR services for women and girls is a subject of privilege. While in the capital and bigger cities women and girls can access some of the SRHR services, it is a fact that women in rural communities are not always in a position to make informed choices and access their sexual and reproductive health.”

MARINELLA MATEJCIC, CROATIA

“#WhatWomenWant: ... access to services for ALL women: trans*, lesbian, young, injecting drug users, women living with HIV.”

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON AIDS #WWW PHOTO CAMPAIGN

“Young women should always be supported to stay genuine and true to themselves, to stand up for what they believe and to believe they are as capable as men for any kind of job. History has proven that when women got education, got to work and pursued their dreams, society benefited.”

MARSIDA, ALBANIA

“Young women in our community lack access to education on sexual health and rights.”

YANA PANCHENKO, RUSSIA

Young feminist blog series

MARINELLA MATEJCIC, CROATIA // JUNE 15 2016

Why do we need a feminist HIV response?

We need a feminist response to HIV infection because there is no feminism if we do not talk intersectionality; if we do not talk about transgender women; if we leave the lesbian and bisexual community out of it. Fighting HIV is fighting against patriarchy, against the fact that society in which we are living in finds it acceptable to leave girls and women behind because they have special needs in terms of SRHR. By teaching women and girls and some marginalized groups about SRHR, we are giving them the tools to create their own destiny. There is no progress if women cannot control their bodies. It's applicable to fighting HIV, STIs and unwanted pregnancies.



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

- **Peace and security**
- **Reform of punitive laws around key populations**
- **Capacity-building of women's civil society needed**
- **Women's leadership**

“Funding for women-led CSOs [civil society organizations] is not just about doing advocacy, also the issue of leadership and governance. Strong women's civil society is crucial. It needs to be adequately funded.”

SOUHAILA BENSALIM, TUNISIA

EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

- **Comprehensive sexuality education and youth friendly services**
- **Clean and proper equipment in labor wards**
- **End human rights violations such as the forced and coerced sterilization of women living with HIV**
- **Access to education for girls**
- **HIV literacy – prevention literacy for girls and young women through school-based curricula and also through working with parents**
- **Advocacy messages that speak to the complexity of women's lives**
- **Bold governments that pass radical policies and place power in the hands of women. An end to lip service to women's and girls' empowerment**
- **Contraceptive options**
- **Awareness and education on available SRH and HIV services, tools and information in our communities**
- **Sensitization of healthcare providers and police to end stigma and discrimination**
- **Mentorship programs to support more young women leaders**

Young feminist blog series

NTLOTLENG MABENA, SOUTH AFRICA // JUNE 16, 2016

What are the gaps in the HIV response for women and girls and what are the key barriers and enablers to accessing HIV and SRHR services?

Although we have made great strides in treatment of HIV, as evidenced by fewer AIDS-related deaths, we are yet to make similar strides in the field of prevention of new infections. We are still seeing significant new infections amongst adolescent girls and young women. We need to honestly interrogate the factors that put women and girls at high risk, and afford enough resources in mitigating these factors. The key, is to involve women and girls in researching these factors and in finding possible solutions.

What needs to be done to address gender-based violence in your region?

... There has been a lot of programs that target men, as perpetrators of gender-based violence. These programs engage men at community levels, and forces men to look at how they use their power,

"Society needs to be assisted to revisit the subject of sex in its entirety. Parents of girls [should be] socialized to ensure that girls do not continue to be left vulnerable to contracting HIV simply from a lack of knowledge and confidence to protect themselves."

TSHEPO, SOUTH AFRICA

"One effective strategy that has worked in my community is having the gender-based violence desk at the police stations. This has ensured that victims of sexual crimes and domestic violence have been handled in a better manner and that evidence is better collected to be able to prosecute the perpetrators."

ISABELLA, KENYA

and how they view women. Although these have not necessarily translated into large scale behavior change, it is a key area of intervention. We need men, to take responsibility for their actions and see the consequences of misogyny in their communities. But while we work with men, we should never stop working with women, especially those who find themselves as victims of gender-based violence. We need to strengthen the public services available for victims of rape and abuse, and continue to make these services accessible to all women. We have women and girls who do not have access to adequate post rape care, and access to safe judicial services.

How can young women be supported to break structural barriers that hinder the progress towards gender equality?

We need policies that place more power in the hands of women and girls. We cannot continue to have decisions on sexual and reproductive health and rights be made by people who are far from those situations. Women should and must have the power to decide about their

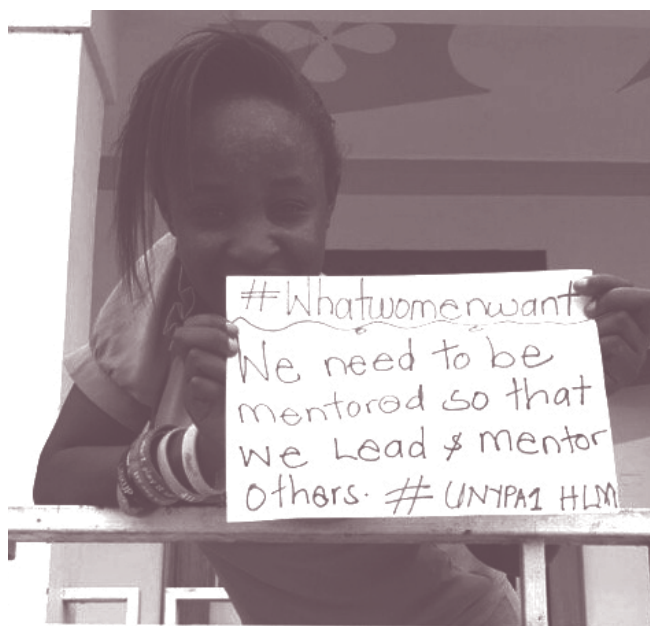
own sexual health and reproductive health. Too often we see women been given censored choices. For instance, in my country, South Africa, abortion, under certain conditions, is legal, yet, thousands of women do not have access to safe, legal public abortion services. Many still resort to unsafe abortions, risking their lives, because there are no public abortion services offered in some areas. We say women have a choice to choose safe abortion services, but in actual fact, they have no choice because there are no facilities that offer the service in her community.

What would like to see come out of the HLM 2016?

I would like to see resolutions that place women at the center of their discussions, resolutions lead by women, that are for women. Before they become technical, and start arguing from positions of power, they should first pause and think how their input affects the most vulnerable, most deserted women back in their own communities. I really hope the discussions at the High-Level Meeting on AIDS will move us forward as women, and will not be filled with bureaucratic lip service.

"We still have many cultural and social practices that place women in submissive roles making it very hard for women and girls to be able to negotiate their safety. If governments are serious about women empowerment, and in reducing the burden of infections amongst women, we need them to really be bold, and pass radical policies that place a power in the hands of women. This will mean that they remove power from the hands of men. Lip service on empowerment has not gotten us anywhere."

NTLOTLENG, SOUTH AFRICA



Lillian Mworeko @lmworeko · Jul 14

#WhatWomenWant :My WombMyright don't force family planning on me @ICWEastAfrica @NetworkAthena @emkamonyo @BMKGiftSnr



6



4



Helena Minchew @hminchew · May 19

Women in ALL of our diversity need access to info & education, quality health svcs, & autonomy over their bodies #WhatWomenWant



2



5



"We need to understand the indicators, get to know what statistical committee is recommending because that is what gets funded."

VANESSA, TANZANIA

"I want the UN and the African Union to ensure that no woman is being left behind."

ASSUMPTA, NIGERIA



"Statistics guide us to the fact that over 70% of primary commodities producers are women, yet less than 3% of them own or have access to these primary commodities/resources such as land."

ZONEZIWOH MBONDGULO, CAMEROON

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

- **Comprehensive sexuality education**
- **Peer education**
- **Knowledge about our SRHR**
- **Young women's leadership**
- **Stronger gender analysis in the HIV response**
- **Access to female condoms and family planning options**
- **Equal opportunities for women and girls, including economic security and land ownership**
- **Accessible and affordable HIV treatment commodities in rural communities**

"There should be sexuality education at all levels, in primary and secondary schools. There is a lot of false information on sexuality. This will help young people know their sexuality, which will help them in the future."

NADIA, BURUNDI

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

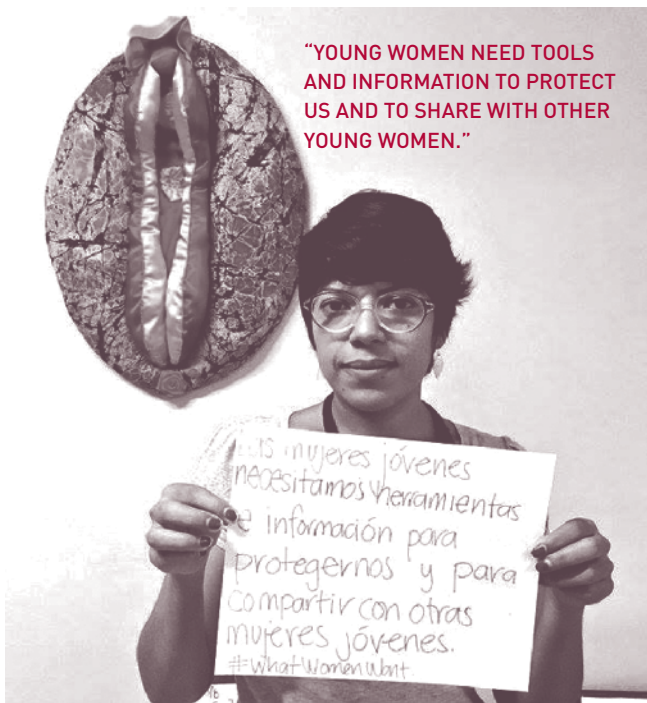
- **Bodily autonomy and informed decision making**
- **Sexual and reproductive justice**
- **Tools and information to protect ourselves and share with other young women**
- **Psychosocial support and mental health services**
- **Better healthcare infrastructure**
- **SRH services for women and girls living with HIV that are youth friendly, confidential and free of stigma**
- **Recognize the links between SRH information and HIV and create holistic, comprehensive, integrated programs**
- **Comprehensive sexuality education**
- **An HIV response that guarantees the effective enjoyment of SRHR**
- **Access to contraception and safe abortion**
- **To be able to trust our politicians**

"Tackle gender-based violence [by] addressing gender stereotypes and challenge gender roles, which is the only real way to tackle the machismo culture that permeates this country and enables men to feel that they 'own' women, and women's bodies."

MARISOL, MEXICO

"Quality education means much more than just reading and writing. A critical aspect of supporting young women to break barriers is to educate making sure that we are aware of our rights and are able to make our own decisions about our bodies, our health, and our relationships."

LUCIA, URUGUAY



Young feminist blog series

ANA AGUILERA, MEXICO // JUNE 15, 2016

What are the gaps in the HIV response for women and girls and what are the key barriers and enablers to accessing HIV/SRHR services?

The biggest gap I see in the HIV response for women and girls is the isolated approach we often take when addressing HIV. We fail to see the linkages between education about sexual and reproductive health and how that often leads to a lack of access to contraception, exposure to HIV and perhaps an unintended pregnancy.

We often treat HIV as a separate issue from other SRHR issues such as comprehensive sexuality education, access to contraception and access to safe and legal abortion. As a result, we implement programs to address each of these issues separately and lose out on the opportunity to provide more holistic and comprehensive programs that see a girl or woman as needing information about and access to a comprehensive package of SRH services. In my experience, the biggest barrier to accessing SRH services can also be the biggest enabler. I believe it is ultimately empowerment that makes the difference. An empowered girl or woman that values herself and that

"[A key barrier to accessing SRHR is] cultural: the stigma related to HIV and STIs [sexually transmitted infections] in general. Women are afraid to get tested because they don't think it's necessary, because they don't trust in health service providers' confidentiality, or they believe that HIV can be equal to a 'death sentence', a ban for having a sex life, or even to be able to get jobs since some companies ask for an HIV test as part of the recruitment process."

GENESIS, VENEZUELA

"We need long-term sexual and reproductive health and rights for women who were born with HIV."

L'ORANGELIS, PUERTO RICO

feels supported by her family and community will find ways to access SRHR information and services.

Young women like me need to be supported to overcome the barriers that get in the way of our participation and our leadership. First, we need to acknowledge the gender imbalances that exist in positions of decision-making and power across the various spheres that we operate in. Without specifically calling out the imbalances and the reasons for why they exist, we cannot address these imbalances. Second, we need to create spaces for us to build our capacity as leaders and exercise our leadership abilities in the spheres that we don't normally operate in.

Why do we need a feminist HIV response?

HIV disproportionately affects young women and those women are often in relationships where they hold less power than their male partners. By employing a feminist response to the HIV epidemic, we are not only treating HIV and AIDS as a health issue but also a gender equality issue that requires attention to existing gender and power dynamics. We cannot continue to only treat the symptoms of problems whose root causes stem from gender inequality and the notion that women are inferior to men.

#WhatWomenWant: piecing it together

“At a time when funding for women’s rights has been on the decline, the #WhatWomenWant online campaign provides a space for young feminists to contribute to and influence global policy discourse on the HIV response. It provides a space to amplify young feminist voices through the various channels of participation, and for feminist thought leadership in the HIV response, including a harmonized way to organize, given its democratization.”

CATHERINE NYAMBURA, KENYA

“We do not tell our stories to be victims – we share our stories so that we know where we’ve been, and where we need to go.”

LILLIAN MWOREKO, ICWEA (INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV EASTERN AFRICA)

To realize the ambitious goals and targets of the SDGs and the 2016 Political Declaration on AIDS we need:

- a coordinated, integrated, and visionary platform to harness energy and drive momentum toward realizing the visions, priorities, and needs of women and girls in their diversity and end HIV as a public health emergency
- to articulate the visions and priorities of women and girls in all their diversity
- to serve as the cornerstone for coordinated and collaborative advocacy, political and social mobilization, and national level action for gender equality and HIV
- to speak to the new *Political Declaration on AIDS* and the SDG framework, and serve as a galvanizing tool for civil society.

We see the immediate, building blocks as:

- **FULFIL:** a gender equality funding mechanism to invest in feminist leadership to undertake the long-haul work of gender transformation and building gender equitable societies
- **#WhatWomenWant:** a resourced, inclusive, democratic and community-led platform where many can speak, amplify one another’s voices, and translate this momentum into thought leadership, coordination, and accountability



Keeping the momentum

1 December, 2016	World AIDS Day focus on HIV prevention
January, 2017	African Union Summit, Gender is my Agenda Campaign (GIMAC)
13–24 March, 2017	CSW61 Commission on the Status of Women
June, 2017	High-Level Political Forum on SDG 3 and 5

#WhatWomenWant process and timeline

Since February 2016 #WhatWomenWant has engaged women – including young women living with and affected by HIV, thought leaders, and high-level decision makers from around the world – through community consultations, a young feminist blog series, high-level panels, think tank meetings, and a large-scale social media and photo campaign. Regional representation and diversity is built from within existing forums and working groups.

#WHAT WOMEN WANT

“I would like governments to address HIV responses with a sex-positive approach, recognizing that individuals living with HIV have the right to a pleasurable and healthy sex life.”

MARISOL RUIZ, MEXICO

KE A DIFFERE

Neither mine nor my family's honour lies in my VAGINA #WhatWomenWant

Autonomy + Power over their OWN BODIES

A young woman's reproductive health is her right to decide what happens in her body

ATHENA

The #WhatWomenWant campaign is run by the ATHENA network, with support from young women and women-led civil society partners www.athenainetwork.org

SDGs

Bodily Integrity and Freedom poster at AWID Forum, 2016.

SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN REACH

- Virtual reach of over 13 million accounts on Twitter
- 120,000 engaged in five Twitter chats from May to July 2016
- #WhatWomenWant hashtag used over 15,000 times since May 2016
- Young Feminist Blog Series spans 16 countries and territories and authored by activists working across HIV, women's health, family planning, LGBTI issues, women's entrepreneurship, gender-based violence, transgender rights, tracking of SDGs, law and policy, and academia
- Thousands of total participants in Twitter chats, photo and video projects from across five regions and 40 countries
- Over 25 partner organizations have built the movement, with many more engaging continuously in virtual dialogue

CAMPAIGN TIMELINE

Through the following we delivered global and regional priorities against the core rings of the #WhatWomenWant framework:

- Young Women's Leadership Initiative up to and at the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60) (February to March)
- Think Tank at Ford Foundation during the CSW60 (March)
- Link Up Project youth-led dialogues on SRHR and HIV integration (April to May)
- Civil Society Hearing for the High-Level Meeting (HLM) on AIDS (April)
- Photo and video campaign (May to July)
- Social media campaign (May to July)
- Young Feminist Blog series (May to September)
- #WhatWomenWant breakfast panel at the HLM (June)
- Young Women's Leadership Initiative and #WhatWomenWant campaign at the International AIDS Conference (July)
- #WhatWomenWant as part of the African Young Feminist Dialogues at the AWID International Forum (September)

Acknowledgments

#WhatWomenWant ATHENA leadership team

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Video technical support: Aaron Lovett

Design: Jane Shepherd

ABOUT ATHENA

ATHENA's aim is to advance gender equality and human rights, working through global health policy and practice – and in so doing to realize a world where women in all of their diversity have the power, choice, and agency to make and enact their own decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing, and to claim their human rights: where HIV is no longer a public health emergency; and where gender-based violence in all its forms is eradicated.

As a global network of organizations and individuals, we bring expertise through lived experience, and work through on-going partnerships rather than isolated projects. Our approach is based on a durable and transformative model of change: seed change from the bottom up and ensure that global processes are reflective of local realities, and vice versa. We mentor new young women leaders, invest in lasting collaboration and mutual knowledge exchange, bridge movements towards a more inclusive, stronger women's rights and gender equality movement, and in so doing strengthen and invest in women-led civil society.

“You cannot empower me, but we can sit at the table together and share our power.”

MARIJO VAZQUEZ, FOUNDING CHAIR OF ATHENA;
HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER; FEMINIST, SPAIN

www.athenanetwork.org

#WHAT WOMEN WANT



In partnership with:

